
C A R N E G I E

H E R O  F U N D

C O M M I S S I O N



2010-2011-2012 ANNUAL REPORTS



CARNEGIE HERO FUND COMMISSION

Established April 15, 1904, by Andrew Carnegie, the Carnegie Hero Fund Commission was created to recognize outstanding acts of selfless heroism performed in the United States and Canada.

The single event that stimulated Mr. Carnegie to organize the Fund was the Harwick mine disaster near Pittsburgh on January 25, 1904, which claimed 181 lives. The victims included an engineer and a miner who went into the stricken mine in valiant attempts to rescue any survivors.

The tragedy and sacrifices so moved Mr. Carnegie that he promptly took action on his then-novel idea of honoring and helping the “heroes of civilization.” Writing in the Commission’s founding Deed of Trust (see page 5), he specified that each hero to be recognized, or the next of kin, was to receive a medal reciting the heroic deed it commemorated. The Commission was empowered also to make monetary gifts. Given to the heroes or their families, the grants include continuing support, scholarship assistance, and death benefits. Nearly \$35 million has been given to the awardees or their survivors over the life of the Fund.

Recommendations for awards may be made by anyone having knowledge of such outstanding acts of bravery. Awards are open to all civilian citizens of and visitors to the two countries under regulations presented in detail on the subsequent pages of this report. Each act is investigated as to fact and degree of risk involved and is evaluated by the Commission on the basis of the results of the investigation.

The Commission is a private operating foundation, classed as a charitable organization under Section 501(c)(3) of the IRS Code. Visit the Commission’s Web site for further information: www.carnegiehero.org

HUMBLED BY BRAVERY

The Carnegie Hero Fund Commission continues its pursuit of the mission set out by Andrew Carnegie in 1904: To identify, verify, and recognize acts of individual heroism in the United States and Canada. The task is not trivial. Over the last three years, our staff recorded 2,581 rescue acts, from which the Commission awarded the Carnegie Medal to 249 individuals. The Commission has awarded 9,576 medals since 1904 from among 85,420 rescue acts called to our attention.

William P. Snyder III, left, was recognized for 60 years' service to the Carnegie Hero Fund Commission in 2012 by Mark Laskow, President.



Our award standards require that the rescuer face serious risk of death in the course of a rescue. The reality of that risk is reflected in the fact that over the last three years 39 of the awardees died in their rescue acts. We are truly humbled by the bravery of our heroes, most of all those who gave their lives attempting to save others.



Mr. Off

A number of changes have taken place on the Commission itself over the last three years. Two long-serving board members, William P. Snyder III and James M. Walton, retired from active association, and two others, Robert W. Off and Arthur M. Scully, Jr., were lost to us through death. Bob Off was my predecessor as President, serving from 1979 to 2001. These four men contributed a combined total of more than 175 years to this work, and we miss both their experience and their companionship. The longest-serving of the four, Bill Snyder, was on the Commission for 60 years, more than half of this organization's 108-year history. Truly amazing!

The good news is that Andrew Carnegie's vision has attracted highly qualified business and community leaders to service on the Commission. We have added seven new members over the last three years, which could be a lot of turnover for a group of 21. Fortunately, these men and women have rapidly absorbed the culture of the Commission and learned the intricacies of our award criteria. We have continued our work, missing old friends but strengthened by new blood in our pursuit of the goals Mr. Carnegie laid out for us more than a century ago.

A handwritten signature in brown ink, appearing to read 'Mark Laskow'. The signature is fluid and stylized, with a large 'M' and 'L'.

Mark Laskow
President

DEED OF TRUST

TO THE HERO FUND COMMISSION

GENTLEMEN: We live in a heroic age. Not seldom are we thrilled by deeds of heroism where men or women are injured or lose their lives in attempting to preserve or rescue their fellows; such the heroes of civilization. The heroes of barbarism maimed or killed theirs.

I have long felt that the heroes and those dependent upon them should be freed from pecuniary cares resulting from their heroism, and, as a fund for this purpose, I have transferred to the Commission five million dollars of First Collateral Five Per Cent. Bonds of the United States Steel Corporation, the proceeds to be used as follows:

FIRST. To place those following peaceful vocations, who have been injured in heroic effort to save human life, in somewhat better positions pecuniarily than before, until again able to work. In the case of death, the widow and children, or other dependents, to be provided for until she remarries, and the children until they reach a self-supporting age. For exceptional children exceptional grants may be made for exceptional education. Grants of sums of money may also be made to heroes or heroines as the Commission thinks advisable — each case to be judged on its merits.

SECOND. No grant is to be continued unless it be soberly and properly used, and the recipients remain respectable, well-behaved members of the community, but the heroes and heroines are to be given a fair trial, no matter what their antecedents. Heroes deserve pardon and a fresh start.

THIRD. A medal shall be given to the hero, or widow, or next of kin, which shall recite the heroic deed it commemorates, that descendants may know and be proud of their descent. The medal shall be given for the heroic act, even if the doer be uninjured, and also a sum of money, should the Commission deem such gift desirable.

FOURTH. Many cities provide pensions for policemen, firemen, teachers, and others, and some may give rewards for acts of heroism. All these and other facts the Commission will take into account and act accordingly in making grants. Nothing could be further from my intention than to deaden or interfere with these most creditable provisions, doubly precious as showing public and municipal appreciation of faithful and heroic service. I ask from the Commission most careful guard against this danger. The medal can, of course, be offered in such cases. Whether something more can not judiciously be done, at the request of, or with the approval of, the city authorities, the Commission shall determine. I hope there can be.

FIFTH. The claims upon the Fund for some years can not exhaust it. After years, however, pensioners will become numerous. Should the Commission find, after allowing liberally for this, that a surplus will remain, it has power to make grants in case of accidents (preferably where a hero has appeared) to those injured. The action taken in the recent Harwick Mine accident, where Heroes Taylor and Lyle lost their lives, is an illustration. The community first raised a fund of forty thousand dollars, which was duplicated by me after waiting until the generosity of the community had full scope. Here again the Commission should be exceedingly careful, as in this case, not to deaden, but to stimulate employers or communities to do their part, for such action benefits givers themselves as well as recipients.

SIXTH. It seems probable that cities and employers on this continent will ultimately be placed under similar conditions to those of Britain, Germany, and other European States, and required to provide against accidents to employees. Therefore, the Commission, by a two-thirds vote, may devote any surplus that accrues beyond providing for heroes and their dependents (which provision must never be abandoned) to such other modes of benefiting those in want, chiefly caused through no fault of their own (such as

drunkenness, laziness, crimes, etc.) but through exceptional circumstances, in such manner and to such extent as the Commission thinks advisable and likely to do more good than if such sums were given to those injured by accident, where the latter may be suitably provided for by law, or otherwise.

SEVENTH. The field embraced by the Fund is the United States of America, the Dominion of Canada, the Colony of Newfoundland, and the waters thereof. The sea is the scene of many heroic acts. No action more heroic than that of doctors and nurses volunteering their services in the case of epidemics. Railroad employees are remarkable for heroism. All these and similar cases are embraced. Whenever heroism is displayed by man or woman in saving human life, the Fund applies.

EIGHTH. No personal liability will attach to members for any act of the Commission. The Commission has power to fill vacancies.

NINTH. The Commission has full power to sell, invest, or reinvest all funds; to employ all officials, including Secretary, traveling agents to visit and oversee beneficiaries, etc. and to fix their compensation. Members of the Commission shall be reimbursed all expenses incurred, including traveling expenses attending meetings. The President shall be granted such honoraria as the Commission thinks proper and as he can be prevailed upon to accept.

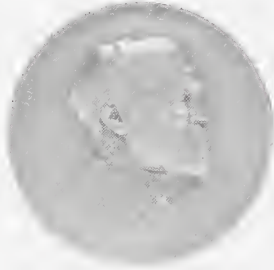
TENTH. An annual report, including a detailed statement of sums and medals granted and the reasons therefor, shall be made each year and published in at least one newspaper in the principal cities of the countries embraced by the Fund. A finely executed roll of the heroes and heroines shall be kept displayed in the office at Pittsburgh.



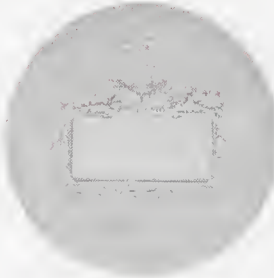
NEW YORK, MARCH 12, 1904

WITNESS, LOUISE WHITFIELD CARNEGIE

THE CARNEGIE MEDAL



*The Carnegie Medal is awarded to one who,
at the risk of his or her own life, saves or
attempts to save the life of another person.*



Mr. Carnegie's embossed profile dominates the front of the medal. On the reverse side in low relief is the geographical outline of the United States and Canada, the countries to which the Fund applies. In higher relief the seals of these countries are shown, with that of the United States below the inscription plate, and that of Canada above it.

Relief work surrounding the inscription plate reveals a sprig of laurel, typifying glory, and above are sprigs of ivy, oak, and thistle, for friendship, strength, and persistence. Encircling the relief work is a quotation from the New Testament (John 15:13): "Greater love hath no man than this, that a man lay down his life for his friends."

REQUIREMENTS FOR A CARNEGIE MEDAL

- There must be conclusive evidence that the person performing the act voluntarily risked his or her own life to an extraordinary degree in saving or attempting to save the life of another person, or voluntarily sacrificed himself or herself in a heroic manner for the benefit of others.
- The act of rescue must be one in which no full measure of responsibility exists between the rescuer and the rescued.
- The act must have been performed in the United States, Canada, or the waters thereof and must be brought to the attention of the Commission within two years of the date of rescue.
- Persons *not* eligible for awards are: those whose duties in following their regular vocations require them to perform such acts, unless the rescues are clearly beyond the line of duty; members of the armed services; children considered by the Commission to be too young to comprehend the risks involved; and members of the same family, except in cases of outstanding heroism where the rescuer loses his or her life or is severely injured.

AWARDS

- A medal is presented to the person performing the act or, in case of death, to the widow, widower, or the next of kin.
- When a rescuer loses his or her life in the performance of an act, contributions may be made toward the livelihood of the dependents. If the rescuer is disabled in the performance of the act, periodic contributions may be made to his or her livelihood. If the rescuer is not injured, a monetary grant may nevertheless be made, should the Commission deem such gift desirable. Awardees and the dependents of posthumous and disabled awardees are eligible for scholarship assistance.
- The benefits to be paid and the manner of payment are determined by the Commission after consideration of the circumstances of each awardee. Continuing benefits are paid only if there is clear need for such assistance and only if such benefits are soberly and properly used and the recipients remain respectable members of their communities.



Michael V. Sharpe of Fort McMurray, Alta., received the Carnegie Medal in 2010 for the daring rescue of a truck driver whose tractor-trailer overturned and caught fire in a highway accident. The burning wreckage is seen in a cell-phone photo that Sharpe took. Sharpe was a heavy haul operator for Syncrude Canada, Ltd., who provided this photo as a courtesy.



2010 Carnegie Medal awardee John M. Krahn of Muskego, Wis., is shown a few months after his heroic act, with daughter Kaitlyn. Krahn pulled a woman from her car, which was in the path of a freight train, and was working to free her son when the train struck the vehicle. Photo, by Peter Zuzga, appeared on CNI/Now Online and is © 2010 Journal Sentinel, Inc., reproduced with permission.

HEROIC ACTS RECOGNIZED DURING 2010

The following persons were cited by the Carnegie Hero Fund Commission in 2010 for having performed outstanding acts of heroism. In each case, a Carnegie Medal and a financial grant were awarded.



RORY AHEARN
Danbury, Connecticut

Rory Ahearn helped to save Erik M. Lageroos from drowning, Danbury, Connecticut, January 11, 2009. Lageroos, 26, was cross-country skiing on snow- and ice-covered Candlewood Lake when he broke through thin ice at a point about 500 feet from the closest bank. He was able to hoist himself back onto the ice, where he called for help. Ahearn, 57, who lived on the bank in that vicinity, saw Lageroos on the ice and reported the accident. He then went to the edge of the lake and pushed an aluminum rowboat out to Lageroos. With Lageroos holding to a line at the bow of the boat, Ahearn started to return to the bank, pulling the boat. When they were about 100 feet from the bank, Ahearn broke through the ice, striking his head on the boat. He was able to get his legs back onto the ice, but with difficulty, as he maintained his hold of the boat. Firefighters arrived shortly. They secured a line to Ahearn and pulled him to the bank and then secured Lageroos and pulled him through open water to safety. Both men required hospital treatment for hypothermia, and Ahearn for a laceration to his forehead. They recovered. 81921-9330



CAMERON T. ANDERSEN

Mill Valley, California

Cameron T. Andersen helped to save Margarita Preciado from drowning, Stinson Beach, California, May 16, 2009. While swimming in the Pacific Ocean, Margarita, 16, was pulled seaward by a very strong current and was unable to return against it. On the beach, Andersen, 23, laborer, became aware of her situation. He removed his outer attire and waded and swam out to Margarita, allowing another man who had swum out to her to return to the beach. Andersen positioned his body beneath Margarita, who was nearly exhausted, to keep her afloat. They were joined shortly by another rescuer who had swum out from the beach. The two men attempted to swim back to shore with Margarita, but they made no progress against the current. Supporting her, they were carried farther seaward as they awaited help. After several minutes, two lifeguards, one with a paddleboard, reached them. Andersen and the other rescuer helped place Margarita on the paddleboard, and she was returned to the beach by one of the lifeguards. The other lifeguard remained with the men as they swam back to shore, resting en route with the aid of the lifeguard's flotation device. Margarita required overnight hospital treatment, and she recovered. Andersen was cold and tired, and he too recovered. 82256-9368



JIMMY AVANT

Chicago, Illinois

Jimmy Avant died helping attempt to save Melvin Choice, Jr., from drowning, Algonquin, Illinois, November 14, 2008. Melvin, 17, was one of a group of high school boys that, late at night, took several paddleboats onto the Fox River at the camp where they were attending a seminar. The boat that Melvin and two of the other boys were in was taking on water at about the center of the 300-foot-wide river. Jimmy, 18, and another of the students on the bank

boarded one of the paddleboats and made their way toward the disabled boat. Melvin entered the 42-degree water from that boat in an attempt to swim, but he began to struggle in the eight-foot-deep water. Although he was wearing extra attire, Jimmy dived from his paddleboat and swam toward Melvin, as did the student who had accompanied Jimmy. The three boys struggled and then submerged. Divers recovered them from the river several hours later. All had drowned. 81961-9348



STACY L. BEHAN

Tivoli, New York

Stacy L. Behan rescued Robert T. Chilinski from burning, Tivoli, New York, April 26, 2009. Chilinski, 26, was the driver of a car that, late at night, left the highway and, striking trees and overturning, came to rest upright in a field. Unconscious, he remained in the driver's seat as flames broke out on the vehicle and entered it on the passenger side through the missing windshield. Behan, 40, homemaker, who lived nearby, ran to the scene in her nightclothes after hearing the accident. She approached the driver's door and, finding it partially ajar, opened it further. Wedging the door open with her back, she extended her upper body into the car and unlatched Chilinski's safety belt. Behan wrapped her arms around Chilinski, who outweighed her by 55 pounds, and pulled him out of the vehicle and to the ground. Her husband, who had reported the accident, and a police officer arrived about then and dragged Chilinski farther away to safety. Flames soon engulfed the vehicle. Chilinski required hospitalization for treatment of his injuries, which included burns. Behan recovered from a cut to her back. 82196-9344



DAVID A. BENKE

Littleton, Colorado

David A. Benke saved an indeterminate number of people from assault, Littleton, Colorado, February 23, 2010. A 32-year-old man armed with a hunting rifle entered the grounds of a middle school just after classes were dismissed for the day. Approaching the building, he fired a shot at a group of students, one of whom was injured in the arm by fragments. A teacher at the school, Benke, 57, was on bus duty at a point about 60 feet away and heard the shot. Starting toward the school to investigate, Benke saw the assailant and immediately ran to him as the assailant managed to get off another shot. That shot struck a male student in the back and severely injured him. The assailant dropped the rifle as Benke reached him. Benke grasped the assailant and took him to the pavement. Others responded immediately and secured the rifle and helped to restrain the assailant, and police arrived shortly and arrested him. The injured students required hospital treatment, and they recovered. 82968-9400



SCOTT MATTHEW BLIGH

El Cajon, California

Scott Matthew Bligh helped to save Megan A. Rippey and André D. Dorian from burning, Lakeside, California, August 21, 2010. Rippey and Dorian, both 27, were climbing a steep, rugged face of El Cajon Mountain when a wildfire broke out near the mountain's base and, fueled by vegetation, began to move up the slope toward them. As the fire advanced, trapping them, they called for help on a cellular telephone, allowing authorities to pinpoint their location. Having become aware of the climbers' plight, Bligh, 43, a deputy sheriff who piloted a law enforcement patrol helicopter for his department's air unit, and a coworker flew a helicopter to the mountain and, aided by one of the unit's larger fire/rescue helicopters, located the climbers. Despite dense

smoke, which restricted visibility, fire-driven turbulence, and the steep face of the slope, Bligh had to execute a landing in which only the front end of the helicopter's skids could be braced against the mountain. With the rear of the craft extending over the slope, the other deputy left the cockpit, forfeiting his seat for the climbers. Because of limited space in the helicopter, weight considerations, and the craft's tenuous positioning, the climbers could be rescued only one at a time. Rippy entered the helicopter and was flown to safety by Bligh, the other deputy remaining at the scene with Dorian. In Bligh's absence, those men fled advancing flames by moving laterally on the mountain. Returning shortly to the hostile environment, Bligh again maneuvered against the mountainside as embers entered the cockpit and smoke caused his eyes to tear. Dorian took the passenger seat of the craft while the other deputy stood on a skid and leaned inside, Dorian securing him by holding to his belt. Bligh then flew away from the mountain to safety. 83453-9411



BRANDEN L. BONGE

Valley Mills, Texas

Branden L. Bonge saved Mallery and Megan Smith from burning, Waco, Texas, March 25, 2009. Sisters Mallery, 10, and Megan, 9, were passengers in a sport utility vehicle that, in a two-vehicle highway accident, left the roadway, overturned onto its roof, and started to burn at its front end. Bonge, 28, general manager, drove upon the scene and responded to the passenger side of the vehicle. Despite flames entering its front interior, he kicked out a window and, partially entering it head first, pulled Mallery out. After taking her to safety, Bonge returned and crawled inside again, farther, to grasp Megan, who was unconscious. He removed her from the vehicle, which was shortly engulfed by flames, with the flames spreading to the other vehicle, nearby, that was involved in the accident. Mallery and Megan required hospital treatment for their injuries, and Bonge was treated at the hospital for minor injury and for inhaling smoke. 82163-9365



TERRY L. BULLARD

Worden, Illinois

Terry L. Bullard helped to save an indeterminate number of persons from assault, Maryville, Illinois, March 8, 2009. During a morning church service being attended by about 100, including Bullard, 39, repair shop manager, the pastor was preaching when a man entered the sanctuary, proceeded down the center aisle, and stood in front of him. The man produced a semiautomatic pistol and shot at the pastor but missed. As the pastor moved along the platform, the assailant pursued him, firing repeatedly, the last time mortally wounding him. One of the congregants struggled against the assailant and was stabbed by him. Bullard also approached the assailant and, blocking his path, grasped him about the shoulders to take him to the floor. He was stabbed repeatedly in an ensuing struggle but with other congregants subdued the assailant until police arrived and arrested him. Bullard and the other congregant who was stabbed received hospital treatment for their wounds, Bullard requiring surgery for a chest wound and physical rehabilitation. They recovered. 82048-9363



JAMES CALLAHAN

Flower Mound, Texas

James Callahan saved five children from a runaway van, Watauga, Texas, June 16, 2009. Five children, ranging in age from 2 to 10, were secured to their seats in a minivan that was parked and left running in front of a store. The vehicle began to roll backward toward a busy, six-lane highway. Callahan, 48, car dealer, was in the store and saw the minivan moving backward. He immediately ran from the store and approached the driver's side of the vehicle. He opened the driver's door and placed his right leg and foot inside the minivan to apply the brake, but he became caught by the front left tire of the vehicle and was taken to the pavement and dragged as the minivan

turned away from the highway. The minivan ran over Callahan's left leg and arm, narrowly missing his head, before it stopped. The children were not injured. Callahan was hospitalized for treatment, including surgery, of a fracture to his left leg and cuts and abrasions. 82418-9382



JARED J. CHAMPAYNE

Chicago, Illinois

Jared J. Champayne helped to save Catherine A. Hamlin from drowning, Muskegon, Michigan, August 3, 2009. Hamlin, 41, was wading in Lake Michigan when she was pulled away from shore by a very strong current. Struggling to return to the beach but making no progress against the current and five-foot waves breaking over her, she shouted for help. Champayne, 23, was swimming with a friend closer to shore in that vicinity. Hearing Hamlin call out for help, he swam to her, reaching her at a point about 200 feet from shore. He grasped Hamlin by an arm and supported her until his friend arrived soon and grasped her other arm. The men struggled against the current and waves in their efforts to reach shore, Champayne's friend submerging to push Hamlin from behind in their attempts. Once able to touch the lake bottom, Champayne and his friend walked Hamlin to the beach, where she collapsed. Hamlin and her rescuers were tired and winded, but they recovered. 82460-9357



CODY L. CLEMMONS

Crawford, Texas

Cody L. Clemmons helped to rescue Lisa K. Bowdoin from burning, Waco, Texas, March 25, 2009. Bowdoin, 34, was the driver of a sport utility vehicle that in a two-vehicle highway accident left the roadway, overturned onto its roof, and started to burn at its front end. Unable to release her safety belt, she was trapped inside the wreckage. Clemmons, 44, business operator, drove upon the scene and stopped. Informed that Bowdoin was trapped, he

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obtained a knife, partially entered the vehicle through a window on its passenger side, and gave the knife to Bowdoin, who freed herself of the belt. Despite a rush of flames then occurring at the vehicle, Clemmons grasped Bowdoin, who outweighed him, by the hands and pulled her out, others then helping to take her to safety. Flames grew to engulf the vehicle shortly, and they spread to the other vehicle, nearby, that was involved in the accident. Bowdoin was hospitalized for treatment of her injuries, which included burns. Clemmons also received hospital treatment, for minor injury, and he recovered. 82183-9366



JEREMY S. COBB

Muskegon, Michigan

Jeremy S. Cobb helped to save Catherine A. Hamlin from drowning, Muskegon, Michigan, August 3, 2009. Hamlin, 41, was wading in Lake Michigan when she was pulled away from shore by a very strong current. Struggling to return to the beach but making no progress against the current and five-foot waves breaking over her, she shouted for help. Cobb, 27, was swimming with a friend closer to shore in that vicinity. Hearing Hamlin call out for help, they swam to her, reaching her at a point about 200 feet from shore. Cobb grasped Hamlin by one arm as his friend supported her by the other. The men struggled against the current and waves in their efforts to reach shore, Cobb submerging to push Hamlin from behind in their attempts. Once able to touch the lake bottom, Cobb and his friend walked Hamlin to the beach, where she collapsed. Hamlin and her rescuers were tired and winded, but they recovered. 82459-9358



BRIAN W. COBLENTZ

Germantown, Tennessee

Brian W. Coblentz saved Heather M. Wolff from drowning, Germantown, Tennessee, January 31, 2010. Heather, 2, went down an embankment on her sled but continued onto the ice of a frozen lake, stopping at a point about 50 feet from the bank. She stepped from the sled but then broke through the ice into water about six feet deep. Coblentz, 47, landscaper, was driving on a road adjacent to the lake and witnessed the accident. He immediately parked and, shedding his coat, ran to the bank of the lake. He continued into the lake, breaking a path through the thin ice with his arms and body. Reaching Heather, he lifted her out of the water and positioned her over his shoulder. Swimming and wading, Coblentz made his way back to the bank and turned Heather over to arriving emergency medical personnel. She was uninjured. Numb and bruised, Coblentz suffered a pulled muscle. He recovered.

82921-9409



THOMAS J. CONNORS

Islip Terrace, New York

Thomas J. Connors helped to save Alice Benedict from burning, Port Jefferson, New York, January 11, 2009. Benedict, 74, was overcome by smoke on the second floor of the two-story convent where she resided after fire broke out in the chapel, which was at one end of the first floor. As the convent was located on the campus of a hospital, the hospital's security guards, including Connors, 52, were alerted. Connors responded to the convent and learned that Benedict was inside. He and another security guard broke through a door at the opposite end of the building. They entered, but dense smoke precluded visibility, and, unable to breathe, they exited for air. Re-entering, Connors heard Benedict call out for help as he advanced toward the second floor. The other security guard re-entered the building and joined him. They proceeded to the second story, where they found Benedict on the

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floor. The men took her to the stairway and down to the first floor, where they met arriving firefighters. Removed from the convent, Benedict was taken to the hospital, where she was detained for treatment of smoke inhalation. She fully recovered. Connors also received hospital treatment for inhaling smoke, and he too recovered. 81919-9345



LARRY G. DARROHN, JR.
Jim Thorpe, Pennsylvania

Larry G. Darrohn, Jr., died attempting to save Sharon A. Joseph from burning, Jim Thorpe, Pennsylvania, December 11, 2009. Joseph, 63, was in her apartment, on the second floor of a two-story house, after fire broke out in the kitchen at night. Darrohn, 46, who lived in the first-floor apartment, was alerted to the fire by Joseph's daughter, who escaped the flames. Directing Joseph's daughter to call for help, Darrohn ran up the interior stairway to the burning apartment. Firefighters arrived shortly and found Joseph and Darrohn unresponsive on the second floor. They were removed from the house but could not be revived, as they had died of smoke inhalation.

82813-9402



NICKOLAS J. EDWARDS
Salem, Oregon

Nickolas J. Edwards saved Destiny E. Edwards from burning, Salem, Oregon, October 17, 2009. Destiny, 21, was the driver of an automobile that, at night, left the roadway, overturned, and came to rest on its driver's side. Flames broke out in the car's engine area. Unable to exit the vehicle, Destiny screamed for help. Driving on the same road, Nickolas, 19, high school student, came upon the scene. He approached the car and attempted to gain access to it through its passenger door but was unsuccessful. Despite growing flames at the front end of the car, Nickolas went to the windshield and kicked it repeatedly, creating a small hole. He pulled at the windshield to

enlarge the hole and then extended his arms inside the vehicle and grasped Destiny. He pulled her from the vehicle, and they ran to safety. Flames grew and spread to engulf much of the car. Destiny required hospital treatment for her injuries, and Nickolas was treated at the scene for minor cuts to his hands. He recovered. 82632-9367



DONALD ERICSON

The Woodlands, Texas

Donald Ericson rescued Elizabeth G. Shoaf from burning, The Woodlands, Texas, June 5, 2009. Shoaf, 85, was in a bedroom of her one-story house after fire broke out in the laundry room at night and spread. Ericson, 51, technology manager, who lived next door, was alerted to the fire and saw flames issuing from Shoaf's house. Unable to gain access to the house through its front door, he went to the rear of the structure and pried open a door leading from a deck into the living room. He then stepped inside to find blistering heat, dense smoke that limited visibility, and flames that rolled across the living room ceiling. Calling to Shoaf, Ericson followed her voice to her bedroom, where he found her on the floor. After attempting without success to use a bedroom door that opened to the outside, Ericson retraced his path to the living room, dragging Shoaf. Lack of oxygen forced him outside briefly. Returning to Shoaf, he dragged her outside and away from the house before collapsing. Firefighters arrived shortly, and emergency medical personnel took Shoaf and Ericson to the hospital, where both were admitted for treatment of smoke inhalation. Detained three days, Erickson also suffered burns to his ears and neck. 82317-9396



STEVEN BRADLEY ESTES

Hartselle, Alabama

Steven Bradley Estes helped to save Dewell W. Brown from burning, Somerville, Alabama, October 4, 2009. Brown, 44, was in bed in his bedroom, which was at one end of his mobile home, after fire broke out at night in the kitchen, at the other end. Estes, 40, manufacturing supervisor, was working a shift as a volunteer reserve police officer and was in the vicinity with another officer when they discovered the fire. After Estes opened the structure's unlocked front door, both men stepped into the living room, which was adjacent to the burning kitchen. Despite dense smoke filling that room, Estes crossed it, tracing Brown's voice to his bedroom. There, Estes went to the floor to avoid inhaling smoke. He then stood, got a hold of Brown, and lifted him from his bed. He carried Brown into the living room and toward the front door but before reaching it collapsed to the floor, taking Brown with him. The other officer dragged Brown outside to safety, Estes following, crawling. The structure was destroyed in the fire. Brown sustained minor injury, from which he recovered. Estes and the other officer were taken to the hospital for treatment of smoke inhalation, and they too recovered. 82598-9403



EDWARD JAY FILLINGHAM

Henderson, New York

Edward Jay Fillingham saved Amanda L. Roberts, Kiefer S. Hockey, and Douglas Daury from drowning, Henderson, New York, April 17, 2009. The paddleboat that Roberts, 22; Hockey, 17; and Daury, 27, were operating overturned in Henderson Bay of Lake Ontario in water about 20 feet deep at a point about 1,500 feet from shore. They shouted for help as they struggled in the 41-degree water. At his home on the shore in that vicinity, Fillingham, 75, retired mason, witnessed the accident. He assembled a paddle and life jackets and then, despite suffering from Parkinson's Disease, which compromised

his swimming ability, launched a 12-foot aluminum canoe and rowed through choppy water out to the victims. They grasped the sides of the canoe as Fillingham retraced his course to shore, towing them. The victims left wadable water and were taken into Fillingham's home, where they warmed.

82194-9356



JULIE FITZPATRICK

Lighthouse Point, Florida

Julie Fitzpatrick helped to save an indeterminate number of people from being struck by a boat, Pompano Beach, Florida, August 23, 2009. Unmanned, a 23-foot boat continued to travel off the coast of the Atlantic Ocean after its occupants jumped overboard. Its course took it along a line of mooring balls just off shore in an area frequented by divers and other boaters. Fitzpatrick, 37, consultant, was in a 15-foot boat in the vicinity with her husband when their attention was directed to the runaway boat. They followed it in their vessel, intending to warn anyone who might have been in its path. As they closed in on the runaway, which was traveling at undiminished speed, they realized there was insufficient time to warn those at boats moored ahead. After Fitzpatrick's husband took their boat alongside the runaway, Fitzpatrick jumped over the side and dived into the runaway boat. Regaining her footing, she stopped the craft and then returned it to shore. Fitzpatrick sustained a bruised hip, and she recovered. 82718-9398



ERIC L. FULLERTON

Salt Lake City, Utah

Eric L. Fullerton rescued a man from assault, Salt Lake City, Utah, June 25, 2007. A 46-year-old man was working behind the counter of a fast food restaurant when a prisoner who had just escaped custody during transport entered the restaurant and threatened its patrons and staff with a semiautomatic handgun. The assailant went behind the counter, grabbed the

employee, and, threatening to kill him, began to drag him toward the back of the restaurant. The assailant fired a shot and struck the employee on the head repeatedly with the butt of the gun. A customer, Fullerton, 59, truck driver, was standing in front of the counter as the assault unfolded. He jumped over the counter, approached the assailant, and engaged him in a hold, freeing the employee, who then fled, as did others in the restaurant. A struggle for control of the gun ensued between Fullerton and the assailant, who struck Fullerton repeatedly with his fist. Securing a knife from nearby, the assailant then cut Fullerton on the neck as Fullerton pried the assailant's fingers from the gun. Gun in hand, Fullerton kept the assailant in check as he left the restaurant. Police who had arrived took Fullerton to safety and then apprehended the assailant. Both Fullerton and the employee received hospital treatment for their injuries, Fullerton's including abrasions, contusions, and a laceration to his neck that required sutures. He recovered. 80437-9379



SAMUEL D. GAUSS

Corning, New York

Samuel D. Gauss helped to rescue Amy L. Lindsay from assault, Painted Post, New York, March 14, 2008. With her estranged husband in pursuit, Lindsay, 35, drove onto the campus of the vocational school she was attending. When her vehicle overturned onto the lawn, her husband pulled her from it and started to beat her with the butt of an assault rifle. Gauss, 38, the school's principal, was alerted to the incident, and he responded to the scene from a few hundred feet away with another school employee. Approaching the assailant, they shouted at him to stop the attack, but the assailant pointed the rifle at them and ordered them back. Gauss and the other employee retreated somewhat, and the assailant resumed beating Lindsay. They approached again, but again the assailant threatened them. When the assailant then turned to resume the attack on Lindsay, the other employee ran to him from behind and tackled him, the assailant retaining control of the rifle. A state police officer who had just arrived joined in the attempt to overpower the assailant, who started to rise from the ground. While the officer struggled with him, striking him with his gun, Gauss and the other employee

stomped on the assailant's hands and otherwise worked to disarm him. Gauss removed the rifle from the immediate scene, and the other employee helped the officer to subdue the assailant as other officers were arriving to arrest him. Lindsay required hospital treatment for her injuries. 81673-9341



MICHAEL EARL GAY, SR.

Bartow, Florida

Michael Earl Gay, Sr., rescued Jodi K. Oakes from burning, Alturas, Florida, November 11, 2009. Oakes, 28, was the driver of an automobile that, at night, left the roadway and struck a tree. Flames broke out at the front of the vehicle. Driving nearby, Gay, 43, survey technician, stopped at the scene on seeing the flames and then approached the car. Hearing Oakes scream, he went to the driver's side of the car but found flames issuing through the window of the driver's door. He went to the passenger side, bent the frame of the passenger-door window to get it out of the way, and then leaned head first into the car, to his waist, despite flames inside the vehicle, on the driver's side. He grasped Oakes, who was aflame, and, backing out of the car, pulled her through the window. She dropped to the ground, where Gay patted out the flames on her hair and torso. He then dragged her farther from the car, which became engulfed by flames. Oakes required extensive hospitalization for treatment of her injuries, which included severe burns. Gay also was treated at the hospital, for second-degree burns to his hands. He recovered.

82700-9385



TIMOTHY LUCAS GIBSON

Cape Coral, Florida

Timothy Lucas Gibson saved Kerrigan Lawhorn from burning, Cape Coral, Florida, February 15, 2009. Kerrigan, 1, was in a bedroom of her family's one-story house after fire broke out in the kitchen and filled the room with dense smoke. Across the street, Gibson, 29, air conditioning installer, was alerted

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to the fire. He and others responded to the front of the burning house, where entry was gained through breaking a bedroom window. Gibson climbed through the window into the bedroom, went to his hands and knees, and, despite there being no visibility in the smoke, searched the room. After returning to the window for air, he again penetrated the room and found Kerrigan at its opposite side. He pulled her to his chest, stood, and ran back to the window, where he handed her out to the others. Gibson then climbed through the window to safety. Kerrigan was hospitalized, and Gibson received hospital treatment for smoke inhalation, from which he recovered.

82053-9350



ALEXANDER G. GLASS

Newport, North Carolina

Alexander G. Glass saved Karrissa N. and SuAnna L. Willis from drowning, Cape Lookout, North Carolina, May 25, 2009. Sisters Karrissa, 18, and SuAnna, 23, struggled to stay afloat in the Atlantic Ocean after a strong current took them out from the beach and thwarted their efforts at returning. On shore, their mother screamed for help, attracting the attention of Glass, 33, teacher, who was in another party in the vicinity. Glass waded and swam about 250 feet out to SuAnna, who then directed him to Karrissa. Glass swam about 50 feet farther out to Karrissa, established a rescue hold on her, and swam back to SuAnna. SuAnna held to Karrissa as Glass, outweighed by the women, towed them toward shore. En route coming upon a submerged sandbar, they stood in wadable water to rest. Glass then resumed towing the women toward shore, where they were aided to the beach from wadable water. The women were taken to the hospital, where SuAnna was detained overnight. They recovered. Glass was fatigued, and he too recovered.

82701-9364



DONALD GEORGE GOUGH

Summerland, British Columbia

Donald George Gough helped to save Gordon R. Kingston from drowning, Manning Park, British Columbia, May 23, 2007. Kingston, 83, remained in the driver's seat of his car after it left the highway, went down an embankment and entered the Similkameen River, and, overturning, was swept downstream by the very swift current. Its windows broken out, the car righted itself, facing upstream, at a point about 35 feet from the bank in water about four feet deep. Kingston, who was a nonswimmer, climbed partially out of the car through the window of its driver's door and sat on the window ledge with his legs inside the vehicle. Motorists who stopped at the scene included Gough, 60, environmental monitor contractor. As no rescue aids were then available, Gough left the scene and obtained lengths of fire hose. Returning, he tied one end of the hose around his waist and, still wearing his boots, entered the river as men on the bank held the other end. Gough walked upstream and then started to approach the car, but the current overtook him. He swam to the car and mounted it and then lowered himself into the water next to the driver's door. Gough removed the hose from around his waist, tied it around Kingston, and then pulled Kingston from the car and released him. The men on the bank pulled Kingston to the edge of the river. Untethered, Gough swam from the car, the current taking him farther downstream as he made his way to the bank. Kingston was moved up the embankment to the highway and then taken to the hospital, where he was admitted for treatment of hypothermia and lacerations. He recovered. Gough was cold and tired but fully recovered within a few hours. 82257-9353



JAMIE HAMLEY

Sioux Falls, South Dakota

Jamie Hamley rescued Cody R. Doohen from burning, Sioux Falls, South Dakota, January 27, 2009. Doohen, 20, was unconscious in the front-seat area of his two-door car after the vehicle collided with another and caught fire. Another motorist, Hamley, 33, delivery handler and college student, was approaching the scene and witnessed the accident. He took a fire extinguisher from his vehicle, ran to Doohen's car, and extinguished flames on the driver's side to access that door. Unable to open it, Hamley went to the passenger side of the vehicle and emptied the extinguisher inside, through the broken-out window of the passenger door. He then extended his upper body into the car through the window and felt for Doohen. After withdrawing for air, Hamley re-entered, grasped Doohen, and pulled him head first through the window. He dragged him to safety moments before flames spread to engulf the car. Doohen was hospitalized for treatment of his injuries, and Hamley suffered minor smoke inhalation, from which he soon recovered.

81936-9337



SCOTT T. HARTIGAN

San Juan Capistrano, California

Scott T. Hartigan helped to save a woman from falling, Dana Point, California, October 27, 2008. A 39-year-old woman intent on committing suicide climbed onto the narrow ledge of an interstate highway overpass and held by her fingers to a chain-link fence along the edge of the overpass. Motorists, including Hartigan, 46, business operator, and his brother stopped on the overpass. While his brother held to the woman's fingers from the other side of the fence and talked to her, Hartigan scaled the 10-foot fence and positioned himself on the four-inch ledge, which was about 35 feet above the highway pavement. He straddled the woman from behind, pinning her to the fence. She struggled against him, but Hartigan retained his hold of her

for several minutes. Law enforcement personnel, including a highway patrol officer, arrived, as did firefighters. Seeing that Hartigan was stressed, the highway patrol officer went around the nearer end of the fence and made his way about 80 feet along the ledge to him and the woman. He helped to secure the woman to the fence with a line that was passed through it and then directed Hartigan to return to safety. Hartigan scaled the fence back to the overpass deck as the officer took his place in pressing the woman to the fence. The officer handcuffed her to the fence as she continued to struggle. When those on the overpass cut a hole in the fence, the officer, who had been joined by a sheriff's deputy, passed the woman through it to safety and then followed her there. She required hospitalization. 81735-9331



EULA LEE HARWARD

Ocala, Florida

Eula Lee Harward died after helping attempt to rescue Margaret G. Harward from burning, Ocala, Florida, March 9, 2009. Margaret, 78, was alone in her one-story home after fire broke out in the kitchen and filled the residence with dense smoke. Arriving to visit, her sister-in-law, Eula, 62, and two other relatives discovered the fire. They alerted a neighbor, who broke in the front door and began to search for Margaret. Although she had a history of coronary artery disease, Eula immediately followed him into the house. The smoke forced them to retreat, but they made repeated entries to search for Margaret, Eula at one point penetrating the house 30 feet to find her on the kitchen floor at the point of the fire's origin. After leaving the house to get help from the neighbor, Eula collapsed. She was taken to the hospital but could not be revived. Severely burned, Margaret died at the scene. 82093-9406



KEITH B. HAVENS

Albion, Michigan

Keith B. Havens helped to save Brittany and Jason Sorensen from drowning, Kilauea, Hawaii, June 29, 2008. Brittany and her husband Jason were snorkeling in the Pacific Ocean at a coral reef just off a beach when they became caught in a very strong current that carried them seaward through a channel in the reef. Unable to return to shore, they shouted and waved their arms for help. On vacation, Havens, 54, aquatic director and swim coach, was on the beach with his family and became aware of the situation. Joined by his two adult sons, Havens entered the water and swam out toward the victims, reaching Brittany at a point about 300 feet from shore. As his sons continued to Jason, who was farther out, Havens had Brittany hold to him while he swam toward shore. Unable to escape the current by swimming parallel to shore, because of the channel configuration along with converging waves, Havens swam directly against it. After taking Brittany to wadable water, he returned to the channel with a rescue tube that had been offered from shore. Jason, meanwhile, had been returned part of the way to shore by Havens's sons. Havens joined them, had Jason hold to the rescue tube, and again swam against the current the rest of the way toward shore, towing Jason as he was accompanied by his sons. Progress was arduous, Havens at one point swimming under water and pulling himself along the coral outcroppings. He and his sons reached wadable water with Jason, and all exited to safety. Havens sustained lacerations to his arms and legs from the coral, and he recovered. 82576-9392



ZACHARY PRINCE HAVENS

Albion, Michigan

Zachary Prince Havens helped to save Jason Sorensen from drowning, Kilauea, Hawaii, June 29, 2008. Sorensen and his wife were snorkeling in the Pacific Ocean at a coral reef just off a beach when they became caught in a

very strong current that carried them seaward through a channel in the reef. Unable to return to shore, they shouted and waved their arms for help. On vacation, Havens, 20, college student, was on the beach with his father and brother and became aware of the situation. They entered the water and swam out toward the victims, reaching Sorensen's wife at a point about 300 feet from shore. Havens and his brother continued to Sorensen, who was about 100 feet farther out, as their father returned Sorensen's wife to wadable water. Each grasping Sorensen by an arm, Havens and his brother started to swim toward shore with him. Unable to escape the current by swimming parallel to shore, because of the channel configuration along with converging waves, they swam directly against it, en route pausing to rest on the coral. Having been given a rescue tube from the shore, their father swam back out to them. With Sorensen holding to the rescue tube, he towed Sorensen the rest of the way toward shore as Havens and his brother swam alongside. The rescuers reached wadable water with Sorensen, and all exited to safety. Havens sustained lacerations from the coral, and he recovered. 82868-9393



ZANE W. HAVENS

Albion, Michigan

Zane W. Havens helped to save Jason Sorensen from drowning, Kilauea, Hawaii, June 29, 2008. Sorensen and his wife were snorkeling in the Pacific Ocean at a coral reef just off a beach when they became caught in a very strong current that carried them seaward through a channel in the reef. Unable to return to shore, they shouted and waved their arms for help. On vacation, Havens, 18, college student, was on the beach with his father and brother and became aware of the situation. They entered the water and swam out toward the victims, reaching Sorensen's wife at a point about 300 feet from shore. Havens and his brother continued to Sorensen, who was about 100 feet farther out, as their father returned Sorensen's wife to wadable water. Each grasping Sorensen by an arm, Havens and his brother started to swim toward shore with him. Unable to escape the current by swimming parallel to shore, because of the channel configuration along with

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converging waves, they swam directly against it, en route pausing to rest on the coral. Having been given a rescue tube from the shore, their father swam back out to them. With Sorensen holding to the rescue tube, he towed Sorensen the rest of the way toward shore as Havens and his brother swam alongside. The rescuers reached wadable water with Sorensen, and all exited to safety. Havens sustained lacerations from the coral, and he recovered. 82869-9394



JOSEPH M. HEALEY

Bullhead City, Arizona

Joseph M. Healey acted to save two children from being struck by a boat, Lake Havasu City, Arizona, July 17, 2009. The children, ages 6 and 4, were playing in the water of a cove along Lake Havasu, just behind a friend's boat that extended partially onto the beach. A larger boat that had been beached nearby began to drift backward toward them, its engines running. Healey, 38, cardiac monitor technician, and others on the friend's boat saw the larger boat approaching and shouted to that boat's operator to warn him. As the larger boat closed in on the children, Healey jumped into the water to get them out of the way. The boat struck Healey, badly injuring his right leg with its propeller, and then struck the friend's boat before its operator took control of it. The children escaped to safety. Healey required a week's hospitalization, during which the lower part of his injured leg was amputated. 82547-9410



SCOTT HECHT

Hauppauge, New York

Scott Hecht saved a girl from drowning, Mastic Beach, New York, July 30, 2009. A teenage girl struggled to stay afloat in the Atlantic Ocean after being swept away from the beach by a strong current. Beachgoers shouted for help, attracting the attention of Hecht, 45, social worker, who was in a camping area nearby. Although he decided earlier not to swim that day because of

rough surf conditions, Hecht entered the water with a short surfboard and, holding onto the board, swam out to the girl, reaching her at a point about 200 feet from shore. He grasped her by the wrists and held them over the board and then started toward shore. Waves overtook them as they proceeded, and a lateral current swept them along the shoreline. Others aided the girl when they reached wadable water, and Hecht also reached the beach safely. Hecht was very tired and sustained scratches to his legs, but he did not need medical treatment. He recovered. 82452-9381



ALLEN LEE HECK

Longview, Washington

Allen Lee Heck died helping to save a girl from drowning, Kelso, Washington, July 17, 2009. A 9-year-old girl was wading in the Cowlitz River off a sandbar near the bank when she stepped into deeper water. She shouted for help. Heck, 20, was in another party nearby. He immediately entered the deeper water and swam to the girl. Grasping her, he held her above the surface of the water but then called for help himself. After a woman attempted to swim out to them but returned because of the swift current, a teenage girl swam to Heck, took the girl from him, and returned her uninjured to safety. Heck submerged and drowned, rescuers recovering him from the river the next day. 82420-9390



JEFFREY R. HEIMBACH

Denville, New Jersey

Jeffrey R. Heimbach saved Carlos E. Salinas from burning, Roxbury Township, New Jersey, September 23, 2008. Salinas, 18, was the driver of a sport utility vehicle that, at night, entered the opposing lanes of traffic on an interstate highway and collided with two oncoming vehicles. Salinas's vehicle came to a stop on the highway, with Salinas lying unconscious on the front seats, his legs trapped by wreckage. Other motorists stopped at the

scene, including Heimbach, 29, an off-duty state trooper. Heimbach and two other men removed a passenger from the back seat of Salinas's vehicle, and when Heimbach returned to look for others, he found Salinas. Flames by then had erupted in the engine compartment. After Heimbach reached through the window of the front passenger-side door and attempted unsuccessfully to move Salinas, he crawled through the rear door on that side, completely entering the vehicle. He pulled Salinas partially into the back seat, and then he forced away the driver's seat to free Salinas's legs as flames entered the vehicle through its firewall. Grasping Salinas by the shoulders, Heimbach pulled him the rest of the way into the back seat and then out of the vehicle. He took him to safety, flames growing to engulf the vehicle. Salinas was hospitalized for his injuries. 81728-9373



MICHAEL J. HICKEY

Patchogue, New York

Michael J. Hickey rescued Karl Hawkins and Jean Hastic from burning, Queens, New York, July 12, 2006. Hawkins, 44, and Hastic, 60, were among nine passengers in a van that left the highway and struck a tree. Fire erupted immediately on the vehicle and spread to its interior. Another motorist, Hickey, 35, truck driver, came upon the scene and stopped. He entered the van through a side door and pulled Hawkins out and to the pavement. Despite flames issuing throughout the van's interior, he stepped inside again and found that Hastic was caught in the wreckage. He freed her, pulled her from the van, and carried her away. Growing flames precluded Hawkins's further rescue attempts, and five of the passengers perished, the driver and two other passengers escaping to safety. Both Hawkins and Hastic required hospitalization for treatment of their burns. 79537-9343



JOSÉ HIGAREDA

Norwalk, Connecticut

José Higareda died attempting to help save Ivan D. Carpio from drowning, Norwalk, Connecticut, May 25, 2009. Ivan, 10, was wading along the bank of river-fed West Deering Pond when he lost his footing and was taken farther out and pulled downstream by a strong current. His father and a friend, Higareda, 20, landscaper, were fishing from the bank. They entered the pond and swam with and then across the current to reach Ivan. In water over their heads, the men submerged and resurfaced repeatedly as they pushed on Ivan. Higareda submerged a final time and did not resurface. Firefighters responded and recovered Ivan from the pond, his father having reached safety. They then found Higareda and returned him to the bank, where emergency medical service personnel worked to resuscitate him. Cold and tired, Ivan was taken to the hospital for treatment. Higareda could not be revived, as he had drowned. 82260-9405



DOUGLAS L. HIPPLE

Warren, Ohio

Douglas L. Hipple attempted to save Donna Cassidy, Sheree J. Egry, and Melissa S. Watson from burning, Warren, Ohio, April 28, 2009. Before dawn, Cassidy and Egry, both 52, and Watson, 44, were in bedrooms on the second floor of the two-story group home where they lived after fire erupted on the structure's front porch. On duty in the vicinity, Hipple, 38, police officer, was alerted to the fire. He responded to the scene and entered the house through its front door, the women's caregiver informing him that they were upstairs. Hipple climbed the stairs to the second floor, but heavy smoke repelled him and he retreated briefly. Returning to the second floor, where visibility was severely limited, Hipple yelled to the women, gathering them at the top of the stairs. With rapidly deteriorating conditions proving too formidable, Hipple decided to attempt their escape through a bedroom window. He,

Cassidy, and Egry were overcome by smoke in one of the bedrooms, and Watson was overcome in an adjoining one. They were removed by firefighters who arrived shortly and were taken to the hospital. Watson later succumbed to effects of smoke inhalation. Cassidy, Egry, and Hipple survived smoke inhalation and burns up to third-degree, Hipple's burns covering 14 percent of his body. He was disabled for more than a year. 82189-9391



JON JESKO
Michigan City, Indiana

Jon Jesko rescued Joseph M. Grabiak from assault, Michigan City, Indiana, May 6, 2009. Grabiak, 76, was standing outside his vehicle at a service station when a man approached him and, putting a gun to his side, demanded his keys. Grabiak struggled against the man, their course taking them to the front of the station's store, where Grabiak fell to the pavement. During the encounter, Grabiak was shot in the arm by the assailant, whose gun was a BB pistol. The assailant kept Grabiak at gunpoint as he attempted to rob him. Jesko, 49, carpenter superintendent, was in his truck, which had been parked nearby, when he witnessed the assault. Taking his cup of hot coffee, he ran to Grabiak and the assailant and threw the coffee in the assailant's face. Jesko then punched the assailant and wrestled him to the pavement. Another man responded and removed the gun from the immediate scene. Jesko held the assailant down until police arrived shortly and arrested him. Grabiak required hospital treatment for his injuries. 82224-9328



ADRIAN ALEXANDER JONES
Maywood, Illinois

Adrian Alexander Jones died helping attempt to save Melvin Choice, Jr., from drowning, Algonquin, Illinois, November 14, 2008. Melvin, 17, was one of a group of high school boys that, late at night, took several paddleboats onto the Fox River at the camp where they were attending a seminar. The

boat that Melvin and two of the other boys were in was taking on water at about the center of the 300-foot-wide river. Adrian, 16, and another of the students on the bank boarded one of the paddleboats and made their way toward the disabled boat. Melvin entered the 42-degree water from that boat in an attempt to swim, but he began to struggle in the eight-foot-deep water. Adrian dived from his paddleboat and swam toward Melvin, as did the student who had accompanied Adrian. The three boys struggled and then submerged. Divers recovered them from the river several hours later. All had drowned. 81962-9349



· LARRY BRIAN JORDAN

Poland, Maine

Larry Brian Jordan helped to save Robert G. Evans, Jr., from burning, Poland, Maine, May 20, 2009. Evans, 38, was the driver of a pickup truck that in an accident left the roadway and overturned in a ditch. The truck came to rest on its driver's side, its roof against the slope of the ditch, and flames broke out on its exposed underside. Evans remained conscious but was trapped in the vehicle. Jordan, 48, production operator, drove upon the scene, finding other men fighting the flames with fire extinguishers and attempting to open the passenger door, which was jammed shut. He mounted the passenger side of the truck for better access and, using a pry bar, popped open the passenger door. Jordan then went to the ground and opened the door farther. He reached inside the truck, grasped Evans by the arms, and pulled him from the vehicle with the help of one of the other men. Evans was able to walk away from the vehicle, most of which became engulfed by flames. He was taken to the hospital for treatment of minor injuries, from which he recovered. 82277-9361



KRISTINE KELLY KEATON

Flint, Michigan

Kristine Kelly Keaton helped in the rescue of children from an attacking dog, Flint, Michigan, October 18, 2009. Brooklyn Gibson, 3, was in the backyard of her family's home when an adult male pit bull entered the yard, clamped its jaws on her head, and began to shake her. Others in the yard included a 13-year-old boy, who ran to the dog, pulled it away from Brooklyn, and struggled to restrain it in a chokehold while his half brother took Brooklyn inside the house. Meanwhile, Keaton, 37, attorney, who lived next door, responded to the yard on hearing the children screaming. Seeing the 13-year-old boy struggling to restrain the dog, she ran to aid the half brother as he was getting another child to safety. The dog ran from the 13-year-old boy and attacked Keaton as she approached the house, biting her severely on an arm. Others from the neighborhood responded and beat the dog away from her. Both Brooklyn and Keaton were hospitalized for treatment of serious bite wounds, Keaton requiring surgery. 82685-9384



MARK W. KEENE

Dalton, Pennsylvania

Mark W. Keene died after attempting to help save a girl and a woman from drowning, Dalton, Pennsylvania, February 21, 2009. A 5-year-old girl went onto an ice-covered pond but broke through at a point about 15 feet from the bank and fell into 12 feet of water. Her mother's friend immediately went onto the ice for her and then jumped into the water. He held the girl up while his stepfather, Keene, 55, builder, who was present, left to summon help. The girl's mother, 27, went onto the ice for her, but she too broke through and, unable to extricate herself, held to the edge of the ice. Her friend swam to her and handed the girl over to her before submerging. Keene, meanwhile, despite having a history of significant heart disease, returned to the pond

from his nearby home with an extension ladder, which he placed on the ice within reach of the girl's mother. She did not have the strength to grasp it. As a responding firefighter then removed both the girl and her mother from the open water to safety, Keene suffered a fatal heart attack and collapsed to the ice. The girl and her mother were taken to a hospital for treatment of hypothermia, from which they recovered, and the mother's friend was removed from the pond by divers about three hours later. He had drowned.

82026-9355



JOHN FRANCIS KELLY

Drums, Pennsylvania

John Francis Kelly helped to save Joseph J. Galada, Jr., from drowning, Hazleton, Pennsylvania, March 14, 2009. While ice fishing on Lake Irena, Galada, 63, broke through weak ice at a point about 250 feet from the bank and could not climb back out. He called for help to his two friends, Kelly, 65, retired miner, and his brother, who were nearer the bank. Kelly and his brother took Galada's plastic sled with them as they made their way across the ice toward him. The ice cracked as they approached, and they closed the distance to him while crawling on their stomachs. Kelly and his brother extended the sled to Galada, who grasped it, but with difficulty because of the numbing cold. Requiring repeated attempts, they pulled Galada from the open water, their efforts creating a channel in the ice over the course of several feet. After pulling Galada to safer ice, Kelly and his brother walked him back to the bank. Galada recovered after resting at home for two days.

82324-9334



LAWRENCE FRANCIS KELLY

Beaver Meadows, Pennsylvania

Lawrence Francis Kelly helped to save Joseph J. Galada, Jr., from drowning, Hazleton, Pennsylvania, March 14, 2009. While ice fishing on Lake Irena, Galada, 63, broke through weak ice at a point about 250 feet from the bank and could not climb back out. He called for help to his two friends, Kelly, 59, retired welder, and his brother, who were nearer the bank. Kelly and his brother took Galada's plastic sled with them as they made their way across the ice toward him. The ice cracked as they approached, and they closed the distance to him while crawling on their stomachs. Kelly and his brother extended the sled to Galada, who grasped it, but with difficulty because of the numbing cold. Requiring repeated attempts, they pulled Galada from the open water, their efforts creating a channel in the ice over the course of several feet. After pulling Galada to safer ice, Kelly and his brother walked him back to the bank. Galada recovered after resting at home for two days.

82234-9333



GARY A. KNEESHAW

El Cajon, California

Gary A. Kneeshaw helped to save Megan A. Rippey and André D. Dorian from burning, Lakeside, California, August 21, 2010. Rippey and Dorian, both 27, were climbing the steep, rugged, south face of El Cajon Mountain when a wildfire broke out near the mountain's base and, fueled by vegetation, began to move up the slope toward them. As the fire advanced, trapping them, they called for help on a cellular telephone, allowing authorities to pinpoint their location. Having become aware of the climbers' plight, Kneeshaw, 36, a deputy sheriff who was a tactical flight officer for his department's air unit, accompanied a coworker who flew a helicopter to the mountain. Aided by one of the unit's larger fire/rescue helicopters, they located the climbers.

Despite dense smoke, which restricted visibility, fire-driven turbulence, and the steep face of the slope, the other deputy had to execute a landing in which only the front end of the helicopter's skids could be braced against the mountain. With the rear of the craft extending over the slope, Kneeshaw left the cockpit, forfeiting his seat for the climbers. Because of limited space in the helicopter, weight considerations, and the craft's tenuous positioning, the climbers could be rescued only one at a time. Rippy entered the helicopter and was flown to safety by the other deputy, with Kneeshaw remaining at the scene with Dorian. In the other deputy's absence, those men fled advancing flames by moving laterally on the mountain. Returning shortly to the hostile environment, the other deputy again maneuvered against the mountainside as embers entered the cockpit and smoke caused his eyes to tear. Dorian took the passenger seat of the craft while Kneeshaw stood on a skid and leaned inside, Dorian securing him by holding to his belt. The other deputy then flew away from the mountain to safety. 83454-9412



JOHN M. KRAHN

Muskego, Wisconsin

John M. Krahn saved Monica L. Ensley-Partenfelder and helped attempt to save Mackale J. Partenfelder from being struck by a train, Elm Grove, Wisconsin, May 25, 2009. Ensley-Partenfelder, 40, and her son Mackale, 1, were occupants of a minivan that got caught on a rail at a railroad crossing. A 94-car freight train was approaching the crossing on that track at about 43 m.p.h. On duty at a nearby intersection, Krahn, 41, police officer, ran to the crossing and approached the driver's side of the minivan. He opened its driver's door, allowing egress for Ensley-Partenfelder, and pushed her away from the vehicle. Finding that Mackale was in the minivan, Krahn worked to unlock its rear door, being joined by Ensley-Partenfelder's husband, who had been driving another vehicle nearby. The train bore down on the crossing as the men worked to gain access to Mackale, and it struck the vehicle at undiminished speed. The minivan was knocked from the crossing to a point in an adjacent grassy area, where it came to rest upright. Still inside it, Mackale

was uninjured. Krahn and Ensley-Partenfelder's husband were also thrown to the grassy area. They required hospitalization for treatment of severe injuries, Krahn's including numerous broken bones. He was disabled for more than a year. 82239-9380



CHARLTON LEE
San Marcos, California

Charlton Lee rescued Kendra L. Beebe from assault, San Marcos, California, August 10, 2008. A man approached Beebe, 35, while she was in her back yard and stabbed her repeatedly. Her screams for help attracted the attention of her next-door neighbor, Lee, 32, systems administrator. While Lee looked for a weapon and responded to Beebe's property, Beebe fled through her house to the front porch, where she lay on a seat. Lee saw her there, with the assailant standing beside her, menacing her with the knife. Lee told the assailant to put the knife down, and after a few moments he did so. Lee then entered the porch, moved the knife away from the assailant, and began to tend to Beebe's wounds as the assailant remained nearby. The assailant shortly walked away but was apprehended by police. Beebe required hospitalization for treatment of numerous and severe knife wounds. 81893-9336



PAUL M. MARKS
Monroe, Michigan

Paul M. Marks helped to save Timothy D. Kundrat from burning, Monroe, Michigan, June 30, 2009. Kundrat, 54, was in the living room on the first floor of his two-story apartment after fire broke out in that room at night. Marks, 32, police officer, was dispatched to the scene, where he learned that Kundrat was inside the unit and that another officer had entered to rescue him. Marks also entered the apartment and, yelling to the other officer, crawled through the intense heat of a smoke-filled hall that extended 15 feet to the living room. Joining the other officer at that room, Marks stood and

grasped Kundrat by a hand. With the other officer holding Kundrat's other hand, the officers dragged him to the front door and outside to safety. Kundrat was taken to the hospital for treatment of his injuries. 82467-9360



JEREMY DYLAN MCCARROLL

Highlands Ranch, Colorado

Jeremy Dylan McCarroll died attempting to save Amber N. Jeffers and Joseph A. Shedron from burning, Littleton, Colorado, August 3, 2008. In early morning, Jeffers, 18, and Shedron, 22, were in a bedroom on the second floor of a two-story house after fire broke out on the first floor and spread. McCarroll, 20, college student, and two other young men were spending the night in the house and awoke to flames in the living room. They fled the house to safety, McCarroll and one of the other men exiting through the front door. On hearing screaming, they re-entered through the front door, McCarroll then going to the second floor as the other man went to search the basement. Flames spread quickly, the other man sustaining extensive burns as he fled the basement. Firefighters found the bodies of Jeffers, Shedron, and McCarroll in the debris of the second-floor bedroom. All had died of smoke inhalation. 81868-9339



KEITH E. MELTON

Troy, Illinois

Keith E. Melton attempted to rescue Frederick H. Winters from assault, Maryville, Illinois, March 8, 2009. During a morning service being attended by about 100, Winters, 45, was preaching in the church where he was pastor when a man entered the sanctuary, proceeded down the center aisle, and stood in front of him. The man produced a semiautomatic pistol and shot at Winters but missed. As Winters moved along the platform, the assailant pursued him, firing twice more. Melton, 51, programmer analyst who was in

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the congregation, left his seat and ran to Winters and the assailant, who were struggling on the sanctuary floor. He reached them as the assailant fired again, striking Winters and mortally wounding him. Melton grasped the assailant and struggled against him, the assailant producing a knife that he used to stab Melton in the chest. Melton was sent to the floor but regained his footing and charged the assailant, as did other congregants, one of whom was stabbed repeatedly. They took the assailant to the floor and subdued him until police arrived and arrested him. Melton and the other congregant who was stabbed required hospital treatment for their wounds, and they recovered. 82049-9362



CHARLES H. MONNIER
Molalla, Oregon

Charles H. Monnier rescued Christopher J. Friesen from attacking dogs, Molalla, Oregon, December 25, 2008. Before dawn, Friesen, 21, was walking on the sidewalk in a residential neighborhood when two adult dogs of American Bulldog mix charged him without provocation. Taking him to the ground, they bit him repeatedly and tore off much of his clothing. His screams for help drew the attention of Monnier, 66, retired lumber foreman, who lived at the scene. Clad only in his nightclothes, Monnier left his house and, taking a shovel with him, ran across the street toward Friesen. Swinging the shovel, Monnier hollered at the dogs, one of which backed off. The larger, 80-pound dog turned on Monnier but then backed down, and both dogs left the scene. Friesen required hospital treatment for numerous bite wounds. The dogs were captured the following day and later euthanized.

81856-9342



TINA MARYANN MOORES

Grand Falls-Windsor, Newfoundland and Labrador

Tina Maryann Moores died helping to save Emily B. Ivany from drowning, Buchans, Newfoundland and Labrador, August 15, 2009. While playing along the bank of Red Indian Lake, Emily, 9, was carried into deeper water by an offshore current, and she struggled to stay afloat. Members of her party, including Moores, 35, nurse, and Moores's sister, were alerted and responded from nearby. Moores immediately entered the lake and swam about 130 feet out to Emily. She grasped the girl and held her head above water but then became distressed herself and called for help. Her sister swam out to her and relieved her of Emily. Others responding took a boat out to them and returned Emily and Moores's sister to the bank. Seeing Moores floating farther out, Moores's husband and three other men responded in two boats and returned her to the bank. Emily required hospitalization for treatment of hypothermia and other ill effects, and she recovered. Moores could not be revived, as she had drowned. 82480-9389



DONALD ARTHUR MORRISON

Dutch Valley, New Brunswick

Donald Arthur Morrison rescued a woman from burning, Norman Wells, Northwest Territories, May 24, 2008. A 27-year-old woman was the pilot of a helicopter that was transporting Morrison, 43, diamond driller, and a coworker to a work site in a remote area. As the helicopter was descending to land, a mechanical failure sent it out of control. It dropped 75 feet to the ground, crash landing on its left side. The craft's fuel tank was punctured, and flames erupted immediately and grew quickly, entering the cabin. Morrison unfastened his safety belt, kicked out a section of the windshield, and stepped from the helicopter. Although severely bruised in the crash, he then turned and reached back into the cabin. He grasped the pilot by her jacket, pulled her from the helicopter, and dragged her away. Rapidly

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advancing flames that consumed the cabin precluded his attempt to rescue the other passenger, who died at the scene. Evacuated by helicopter, the pilot required hospitalization for fractures and minor burns to her back, and Morrison was treated at the hospital for contusions and abrasions. He recovered. 81255-9370



CHRISTINE ROSE NGUYEN

New Brighton, Minnesota

Christine Rose Nguyen died after saving Anne R. Schaper from assault, New Brighton, Minnesota, July 17, 2008. Anne, 17, and her mother, Nguyen, 48, homemaker, had just returned home and were standing on opposite sides of their car when Anne's former boyfriend approached the vehicle from Nguyen's side. He was holding a loaded handgun, which was raised above his head. Knowing that he had been stalking Anne, Nguyen moved to a point at the rear of the car to block his path to her, and she put up her arms to stop him. Anne opened the rear door on her side of the car and got into the back seat. The assailant forced Nguyen against the rear of the car and shot her in the abdomen. Anne fled the vehicle through the other rear door and began to run from the scene. The assailant started to follow her, firing the gun repeatedly before fleeing. He was located the next day and arrested. Nguyen was taken to the hospital for treatment of her wound and died there within a few hours. 81424-9335



EDWARD RUSSELL NYE

Mechanicsville, Virginia

Edward Russell Nye helped to rescue Ronald A. Hairfield, Jr., from burning, Mechanicsville, Virginia, June 13, 2009. Hairfield, 37, was the sole occupant of a pickup truck that left a rural road, turned onto its passenger side, and caught fire at its front end. The sound of the crash alerted Nye, 28, store

clerk, and another man, both of whom resided nearby. They ran to the scene, where they saw Hairfield emerge through the window of the driver's door and shout for help. Despite high and growing flames issuing from the front of the vehicle, Nye, who was wearing only shorts, and the other man approached the pickup, grasped Hairfield by his arms, and pulled him out of the cab and to the ground. Another man joined them in taking him farther away. Hairfield was hospitalized for treatment of serious burns and other injuries and died 18 days later. 82325-9351



VICTOR OXFORD

Corona, California

Victor Oxford helped to save a woman from falling, Corona, California, January 2, 2009. In an apparent suicide attempt, a 38-year-old woman mounted the end of the concrete parapet along the edge of a freeway overpass and, holding to a chain-link fence, made her way along the parapet toward the freeway. Oxford, 54, minister and stock trader, was stopped in traffic near the overpass when he saw the woman approach the parapet. Following her, he too mounted the structure and, with only about six inches of footing atop it, held to the outside of the fence as he proceeded about 85 feet to the woman. Then at a point about 40 feet above the level of the freeway, Oxford placed his left leg across the back of the woman, pinning her to the fence. She struggled against him. Others responding to the overpass put a belt through the fence, and Oxford placed it around the woman. A man climbed over the fence and, joining Oxford on the parapet, helped to secure her. Another man responded with a wire cutter and made an opening in the fence opposite the woman. Oxford then lifted her to the opening, and she was taken through the fence to safety on the overpass, Oxford and the other man following. Oxford sustained scratches to his face and a pulled muscle in his shoulder, from which he recovered. 82557-9408



GERALD PIACENTE

Red Hook, New York

Gerald Piacente helped to rescue Caitlin Kelly from burning, Milan, New York, June 19, 2009. Caitlin, 16, was the passenger in a pickup truck that left the roadway, struck a tree, and overturned onto its passenger side on the bank of a ditch. A motorist came upon the accident and called his home, which was less than a mile away, thereby alerting his father, Piacente, 60, teacher. Piacente immediately responded to the scene, where the pickup's driver was emerging through the partially exposed window on the passenger side of the cab. Flames issued from the front of the truck and were spreading to its interior. After Piacente and his son took the driver to safety, Piacente returned to the truck on hearing Caitlin scream. He maneuvered head first through the passenger window up into the wreckage, to his waist, and unfastened Caitlin's safety belt. Grasping her, he pulled her from the vehicle and to safety with the aid of his son. Flames grew to engulf and destroy the truck. Caitlin and the pickup's driver were both hospitalized for treatment of their injuries, which included burns. 82320-9404



MARK J. PIERCE

Morristown, Tennessee

Mark J. Pierce attempted to rescue Betty J. Rathbone from burning, Morristown, Tennessee, December 15, 2009. Rathbone, 70, was in the living room of her ground-level apartment after fire broke out in that room. A neighbor, Pierce, 47, disabled electrician, was returning home as others were attempting to gain access to the unit. Despite dense smoke and flames that virtually filled the living room, Pierce entered the apartment through the front door and called out to Rathbone. Receiving no reply, and thinking that she might have been in her bedroom, at the rear of the unit, Pierce proceeded across the living room and through a hallway to that room. He was overcome by smoke and collapsed to the floor at the bedroom doorway. Responding

firefighters fought the flames to make entry, then located Rathbone and Pierce. Pierce, who sustained severe smoke inhalation and burns up to third degree, was removed from the apartment and taken to the hospital. He was then transferred to a burn center, where he was detained two weeks for treatment, including skin graft surgery. Rathbone had died at the scene.

82787-9395



SCOTT POLEY

Elmira, New York

Scott Poley helped to rescue Amy L. Lindsay from assault, Painted Post, New York, March 14, 2008. With her estranged husband in pursuit, Lindsay, 35, drove onto the campus of the vocational school she was attending. When her vehicle overturned onto the lawn, her husband pulled her from it and started to beat her with the butt of an assault rifle. Poley, 55, internship coordinator, witnessed the crash from a few hundred feet away and responded to the scene with the school's principal. Approaching the assailant, they shouted at him to stop the attack, but the assailant pointed the rifle at them and ordered them back. Poley and the principal retreated somewhat, and the assailant resumed beating Lindsay. They approached again, but again the assailant threatened them. When the assailant then turned to resume the attack on Lindsay, Poley ran to him from behind and tackled him, the assailant retaining control of the rifle. A state police officer who had just arrived joined in the attempt to overpower the assailant, who started to rise from the ground. While the officer struggled with him, striking him with his gun, Poley and the principal stomped on the assailant's hands and otherwise worked to disarm him. The principal removed the rifle from the immediate scene, and Poley helped the officer to subdue the assailant as other officers were arriving to arrest him. Lindsay required hospital treatment for her injuries. 81642-9340



MICHAEL RANGUS

Mechanicsville, Virginia

Michael Rangus helped to rescue Ronald A. Hairfield, Jr., from burning, Mechanicsville, Virginia, June 13, 2009. Hairfield, 37, was the sole occupant of a pickup truck that left a rural road, turned onto its passenger side, and caught fire at its front end. The sound of the crash alerted Rangus, 57, manager, and another man, both of whom resided nearby. They ran to the scene, where they saw Hairfield emerge through the window of the driver's door and shout for help. Despite high and growing flames issuing from the front of the vehicle, Rangus and the other man approached the pickup, grasped Hairfield by his arms, and pulled him out of the cab and to the ground. Another man joined them in taking him farther away. Hairfield was hospitalized for treatment of serious burns and other injuries and died 18 days later. 82326-9352



JOEL P. RECHLITZ

Milwaukee, Wisconsin

Joel P. Rechlitz helped to rescue David J. Harper from burning, Milwaukee, Wisconsin, July 19, 2009. David, 4, was in a booster seat in the rear seat of a sport utility vehicle that overturned onto its driver's side in a residential neighborhood and caught fire. Flames fueled by leaking gasoline burned on the street, covered the rear of the vehicle, and entered its interior. Rechlitz, 29, and his brother, both firefighters, were at the brother's home a few blocks away when they were alerted to the accident. Although they were off duty, they immediately responded to the scene, where others were working feverishly to gain access to the vehicle through its windshield. After his brother helped in partially removing the windshield, Rechlitz stepped into the vehicle. He located David but was unable to free him before fire conditions forced him back out. His brother then entered the vehicle, but he too was unsuccessful.

cessful in his attempt, flames spreading toward the front of the vehicle's interior. Rechlitz and his brother alternated entering the vehicle to free David before the brother, with a knife, re-entered, cut the safety belt restraining David, and took him through the windshield to safety. Badly burned, David required extensive hospitalization. Rechlitz also required hospital treatment, for second-degree burns to his right arm and abrasions to his legs. 82422-9387



JOHN RECHLITZ

Milwaukee, Wisconsin

John Rechlitz helped to rescue David J. Harper from burning, Milwaukee, Wisconsin, July 19, 2009. David, 4, was in a booster seat in the rear seat of a sport utility vehicle that overturned onto its driver's side in a residential neighborhood and caught fire. Flames fueled by leaking gasoline burned on the street, covered the rear of the vehicle, and entered its interior. Rechlitz, 44, and his brother, both firefighters, were at Rechlitz's home a few blocks away when they were alerted to the accident. Although they were off duty, they immediately responded to the scene, where others were working feverishly to gain access to the vehicle through its windshield. Rechlitz helped in partially removing the windshield, after which his brother stepped into the vehicle. He located David but was unable to free him before fire conditions forced him back out. Rechlitz then entered the vehicle, but he too was unsuccessful in his attempt, flames spreading toward the front of the vehicle's interior. The brothers alternated entering the vehicle to free David before Rechlitz, with a knife, re-entered, cut the safety belt restraining David, and took him through the windshield to safety. Badly burned, David required extensive hospitalization. Rechlitz also required hospital treatment, for second-degree burns to his hands and a laceration that required sutures. He recovered. 82421-9386



STANLEY C. ROMBERG

Ocala, Florida

Stanley C. Romberg rescued Upasana Pathak from assault, Ocala, Florida, March 19, 2009. Pathak, 21, was working behind the counter of a convenience store at night when a masked man armed with a gun entered the store, jumped the counter, and approached her. A friend of hers, Romberg, 68, retired livestock employee, was on the other side of that end of the store. He immediately ran into the counter space and lunged at the assailant, pushing him away from Pathak. Romberg struggled against the assailant as a second masked gunman entered the store and approached them. As the first assailant left Romberg and started toward the door, Romberg following, he turned and fired the gun at Romberg, striking him in the left arm. Both assailants fled the scene. Romberg was taken to the hospital for treatment of his gunshot wound, and he recovered in two months. 82663-9377



CATHARINA ROWLEY

Paso Robles, California

Catharina Rowley saved a girl from drowning, Cambria, California, June 28, 2008. A 12-year-old girl was jumping large waves at a Pacific Ocean beach when she was knocked off her feet and carried out from shore. A man entered the water and reached her but was unable to return to shore with her. They shouted for help. In another party at the beach, Rowley, 33, notary, became aware of the situation. She entered the 55-degree water and swam to the victims, who were then nearly submerged at a point about 150 feet from shore. When Rowley grasped the man by his arms, he and the girl latched on to her and struggled against her, submerging her repeatedly. Rowley freed herself and then established a hold on the girl and began to swim back to shore, towing her, the man behind them. After a laborious swim, Rowley reached wadable water, where she helped the girl to her feet.

They left the water, as did the man. Both the girl and the man were taken to the hospital for observation, but they were not injured. Tired, Rowley sustained scratches and swallowed water during the rescue, and she recovered.

81371-9375



GHEORGHITA RUSU

Ottawa, Ontario

Gheorghita Rusu helped to rescue Brenda L. Van Leyen from assault, Nepean, Ontario, November 6, 2009. Van Leyen, 46, letter carrier, was approaching the rear door of a pharmacy on her route when a man approached her, took her to the pavement, and began to stab her repeatedly. Inside the pharmacy, the assistant manager, Rusu, 21, heard her screaming. Rusu exited the building to investigate, and when he saw the assailant leaning over Van Leyen, he approached him from behind, grasped him, and pushed him against a wall of the building. The assailant struck at him, stabbing him in his chest. Concluding that he could not restrain the assailant alone, Rusu returned inside the building for help. The assailant resumed stabbing Van Leyen but left the scene before police arrived. Van Leyen was hospitalized a month for treatment of numerous stab wounds, and Rusu also required hospital treatment. He recovered. 82738-9399



COREY SALADIN

Reed City, Michigan

Corey Saladin saved Maxime L. Miville and Jennifer J. Crown from drowning, Sanibel, Florida, August 20, 2009. Maxime, 9, and Jennifer, 8, were carried out into the Gulf of Mexico by the strong tidal current through Blind Pass. On vacation at the beach, Corey, 14, student, and others became aware of the girls' situation. Corey found a short surfboard nearby, entered the water, and swam out to the girls with it. He reached them at a point about

800 feet from shore and placed Jennifer on the board. Maxime and Corey held to the board as they and Jennifer kicked their way back toward shore, Corey tiring in his efforts to keep his head above water. When they were close to shore, others helped them from the water, Corey collapsing from fatigue. Neither of the girls was injured, and Corey recovered by that evening.

82528-9378



KEITH SAMPSON

Flint, Michigan

Keith Sampson helped to rescue Brooklyn Gibson and others from an attacking dog, Flint, Michigan, October 18, 2009. Brooklyn, 3, was in the backyard of her family’s home when an adult male pit bull entered the yard, clamped its jaws on her head, and began to shake her. Others in the yard included Keith, 13, student. Keith ran to the dog, pulled it away from Brooklyn, and struggled to restrain it in a chokehold while his half brother took Brooklyn inside the house. Meanwhile, a next-door neighbor responded to the yard on hearing the children screaming. Seeing Keith struggling to restrain the dog, the neighbor ran to aid the half brother as he was getting another child to safety. The dog ran from Keith and attacked the neighbor as she approached the house, biting her severely on an arm. Others from the neighborhood responded and beat the dog away from her. Both Brooklyn and the neighbor were hospitalized for treatment of serious bite wounds.

82684-9383



MICHAEL V. SHARPE

Spruce Grove, Alberta

Michael V. Sharpe saved Marc W. Bissonnette from burning, Wandering River, Alberta, September 29, 2009. Bissonnette, 40, was driving a tractor-trailer that, in an accident, left the highway, rolled over onto its driver’s side, and came to rest off the shoulder. Flames immediately broke out between

the tractor and the first of its two tandem trailers, which carried a total of 9,200 gallons of jet fuel. Bissonnette retained consciousness but was trapped in the cab. Traveling on the same highway, Sharpe, 35, heavy haul operator, witnessed the accident and stopped at the scene. Not seeing anyone leave the burning rig, he approached it, despite its intense and growing flames. After he unsuccessfully attempted to kick out one of the tractor's windows with a coworker, Sharpe climbed atop the tractor and worked to open its passenger-side door, having to remove items of wreckage that blocked it. He pulled the door open sufficiently for Bissonnette to climb from the tractor, and then he and Bissonnette descended to ground level and retreated to safety. Flames grew to engulf and destroy the tractor and first trailer, consuming its fuel, and the second trailer was badly damaged. Bissonnette recovered from minor injury. Sharpe sustained burns, including a third-degree burn to one arm that required hospital treatment. He too recovered. 82889-9401



NATHAN R. SIMPSON
Medina, Ohio

Nathan R. Simpson attempted to rescue Tashawn R. Okoye from burning, Medina, Ohio, October 26, 2009. Tashawn, 7, was in his bedroom on the second floor of a two-story duplex after fire broke out at night in a hall closet adjoining that room. Other family members fled the apartment as flames and smoke spread rapidly, blocking its exits. Responding police officers included Simpson, 34. He climbed a ladder that was placed against the building at Tashawn's bedroom window and broke out the glass. He started to enter the bedroom through the window but was nearly overwhelmed by dense smoke. After retreating for air, he held a shirt to his face, climbed through the window, and crawled through blistering heat toward Tashawn's bed. Reaching it, Simpson pulled Tashawn to the floor and dragged him to the window, where he handed him outside to another man on the ladder. Nearly overcome, Simpson climbed out the window and descended to safety,

aided by others. Tashawn could not be revived, as he had died of smoke inhalation. Simpson required hospital treatment for burns, up to second degree, to his hands; smoke inhalation; and lacerations, which required suturing. He missed two weeks' work and fully recovered. 82763-9388



CHRISTOPHER ADAM SKEET

Chicago, Illinois

Christopher Adam Skeet helped to save a boy from drowning, Des Plaines, Illinois, September 15, 2008. A teenaged boy fled his school and was located by school personnel, including Skeet, 30, teacher, along the Des Plaines River. The river was flooded from heavy rains, and its current was swift. The boy mounted a concrete wall adjacent to the river and jumped into it. He submerged, the current then carrying him out from the bank and downstream. Without hesitation, Skeet, fully clothed, jumped into the river and swam to him, but the swift current and the boy's struggling impeded Skeet's initial attempt to tow him back to the wall. They were pulled a distance downstream before Skeet got the boy within reach of the wall. Another man entered the river to help, and people along the wall, including responding police, pulled the boy, the other man, and Skeet from the river. All three were taken to a hospital for examination. Skeet recovered from nausea and muscle ache. 82172-9329



MICHAEL WILLIAM STONEY

Tustin, California

Michael William Stoney helped to save a woman from falling, Dana Point, California, October 27, 2008. A 39-year-old woman intent on committing suicide climbed onto the narrow ledge of an interstate highway overpass and held by her fingers to a chain-link fence along the edge of the overpass. Motorists stopped on the overpass, including a man who scaled the 10-foot fence and positioned himself on the four-inch ledge, which was about 35 feet

above the highway pavement. He straddled the woman from behind, pinning her to the fence. Law enforcement personnel, including Stoney, 35, highway patrol officer, arrived, as did firefighters. Seeing that the motorist was stressed, Stoney went around the nearer end of the fence and made his way about 80 feet along the ledge to him and the woman. He helped to secure the woman to the fence with a line that was passed through it and then directed the motorist to return to safety. Stoney took his place in pressing the woman to the fence, and he handcuffed her to it as she continued to struggle. When those on the overpass cut a hole in the fence, Stoney, who had been joined by a sheriff's deputy, passed the woman through it to safety and then followed her there. She required hospitalization. 81734-9332



CHRISTOPHER ALAN STURGEON

Topeka, Kansas

Christopher Alan Sturgeon helped to rescue Josephine E. Brown from burning, Topeka, Kansas, November 17, 2009. Brown, 63, was on the first floor of her two-story house after fire broke out in the living room and filled the floor with dense smoke. First responders included Sturgeon, 33, police officer. Hearing Brown scream, he kicked in the back door to the house since flames were blocking its front entrance. The door opened to a utility room, which was off the kitchen. Despite dense smoke in those rooms, affording him little visibility, Sturgeon crawled inside but had to retreat for air. He made subsequent attempts, going farther into the house to find Brown on the floor of the dining room, which was off the kitchen. Sturgeon dragged Brown to the kitchen on one attempt and then closer to the utility room door on a subsequent one. After again retreating for air, Sturgeon was met at the back door by another officer, and between them they removed Brown to safety. Brown required hospitalization for treatment of fire-related injury, and Sturgeon also received hospital treatment, for smoke inhalation. He recovered. 82702-9407



ERIC SURBITO

Ronkonkoma, New York

Eric Surbito helped to save Alice Benedict from burning, Port Jefferson, New York, January 11, 2009. Benedict, 74, was overcome by smoke on the second floor of the two-story convent where she resided after fire broke out in the chapel, which was at one end of the first floor. As the convent was located on the campus of a hospital, the hospital's security guards, including Surbito, 28, were alerted. Surbito, who worked part time for the hospital and full time as a firefighter for another municipality, responded to the convent and learned that Benedict was inside. He and another security guard broke through a door at the opposite end of the building. They entered, but dense smoke precluded visibility, and, unable to breathe, they exited for air. Re-entering, the men proceeded to the second story, where they found Benedict on the floor. They took her to the stairway and down to the first floor, where they met arriving firefighters. Removed from the convent, Benedict was taken to the hospital, where she was detained for treatment of smoke inhalation. She fully recovered. Surbito also received hospital treatment for inhaling smoke, and he too recovered. 81920-9346



TREVOR JORDAN TALLY

La Grande, Oregon

Trevor Jordan Tally died attempting to help save Jonah A. and Ann M. Johnson from drowning, Hells Canyon Park, Idaho, June 18, 2009. After Jonah, 6, fell from a dock into Hells Canyon Reservoir, his grandmother, Johnson, 64, jumped into the water after him. Jonah struggled against her, submerging her. Those alerted to the situation and responding included Tally, 21, service technician, who was fishing from a dock 150 feet away. Without removing any of his attire, Tally entered the cold, deep water and swam to Johnson, who was then being aided by a woman whose husband

was aiding Jonah. Tally grasped Johnson but submerged with her before releasing his hold. With assistance, the woman returned Johnson to safety on the dock while Jonah likewise was rescued. By then Tally was no longer seen. His body was recovered from the reservoir the following day. 82322-9397



GREGORY R. THOMSON

Corte Madera, California

Gregory R. Thomson helped to save Margarita Preciado from drowning, Stinson Beach, California, May 16, 2009. While swimming in the Pacific Ocean, Margarita, 16, was pulled seaward by a very strong current and was unable to return against it. On the beach, Thomson, 50, tutor, became aware of her situation. He waded and swam out to Margarita, joining another man who had responded from the beach and was supporting her. Thomson grasped Margarita, who was nearly exhausted, by her lower body to help keep her afloat. The two men attempted to swim back to shore with her, but they made no progress against the current. Supporting her, they were carried farther seaward as they awaited help. After several minutes, two lifeguards, one with a paddleboard, reached them. Thomson and the other rescuer helped place Margarita on the paddleboard, and she was returned to the beach by one of the lifeguards. The other lifeguard remained with the men as they swam back to shore, resting en route with the aid of the lifeguard's flotation device. Margarita required overnight hospital treatment, and she recovered. Thomson was cold and tired, and he too recovered.

82255-9369



CHAD J. TOLSTEDT

Monroe, Michigan

Chad J. Tolstedt helped to save Timothy D. Kundrat from burning, Monroe, Michigan, June 30, 2009. Kundrat, 54, was in the living room on the first floor of his two-story apartment after fire broke out in that room at night. Tolstedt, 33, police officer, was dispatched to the scene, where he learned that Kundrat was inside the unit. He kicked open the front door, entered, and, hearing Kundrat, started to crawl through a smoke-filled hall that extended 15 feet to the living room. Standing to advance, Tolstedt took in too much smoke and had to retreat to the front door for air. He re-entered the apartment, walking crouched over, and struggled against the smoke and intense heat to reach the living room. Another responding officer entered the apartment at about that time and, yelling to Tolstedt, also made his way, crawling, through the hall to the living room, where he joined Tolstedt at Kundrat. Each grasping Kundrat by a hand, the officers dragged him to the front door and outside to safety. Kundrat was taken to the hospital for treatment of his injuries. Tolstedt recovered from inhaling smoke. 82364-9359



GARRETT T. TOWNSEND, JR.

Detroit, Michigan

Garrett T. Townsend, Jr., died helping to save a boy from drowning, Detroit, Michigan, May 24, 2009. A seven-year-old boy entered a residential neighborhood construction site that contained an excavated pit about 15 feet deep at its center. Murky water partially filled the pit to a depth of about 10 feet. In some fashion the boy entered the water and could not get back out. At his home nearby, Townsend, 58, financial planner, was alerted to the situation. He responded to the scene and, despite having limited swimming ability, entered the pit and made his way to the boy. He held the boy up but then submerged. Another man entered the pit, swam to the boy, and took him to the side of the pit, from where he and the boy were both removed to safety.

A police officer who had arrived entered the pit on learning that Townsend had submerged. After the officer located him, Townsend was removed from the pit and taken to the hospital. He could not be revived, as he had drowned. 82241-9374



AKASHA WITCHEY TRAVER

Lexington, Virginia

Akasha Witchey Traver rescued Willow W. Scorpius from burning, Hot Springs, Virginia, January 15, 2009. At night, Willow, 1, was in her crib in a bedroom on the first floor of her family's house after an accidental fire broke out in that room, near the crib. Her aunt, Akasha, 14, student, and other family members discovered the fire. Akasha entered the bedroom, in which dense smoke precluded visibility of everything except the flames, and attempted to get to the crib, but she stumbled and fell. Repelled by deteriorating conditions, she left the bedroom, but she re-entered after a moment and went to the crib, which was by then aflame. Akasha took Willow from the crib and carried her outside. Flames spread throughout the structure, destroying it. Willow and Akasha were taken to the hospital for treatment of smoke inhalation and minor burns, and they recovered. 82100-9371



WILLARD VAN FLEET

Factoryville, Pennsylvania

Willard Van Fleet died helping to save a girl from drowning, Dalton, Pennsylvania, February 21, 2009. A 5-year-old girl went onto an ice-covered pond but broke through at a point about 15 feet from the bank and fell into 12 feet of water. Her mother's friend, Van Fleet, 36, general laborer, immediately went onto the ice for her and then jumped into the water. He held the girl up while his stepfather, who was present, left to summon help. The girl's mother went onto the ice for her, but she too broke through and, unable to extricate herself, held to the edge of the ice. Van Fleet swam to her and

handed the girl over to her before submerging. His stepfather, meanwhile, despite having a history of significant heart disease, returned to the pond from his nearby home with an extension ladder, which he placed on the ice within reach of the girl's mother. She did not have the strength to grasp it. As a responding firefighter then removed both the girl and her mother from the open water to safety, Van Fleet's stepfather suffered a fatal heart attack and collapsed to the ice. The girl and her mother were taken to a hospital for treatment of hypothermia, from which they recovered. Van Fleet was removed from the pond by divers about three hours later. He had drowned.

82027-9354



DUANE E. VANLANHAM

Saginaw, Michigan

Duane E. Vanlanham helped to rescue Bridgetta N. Hadley from attacking dogs, Saginaw, Michigan, March 5, 2009. Hadley, 41, was about to enter her vehicle when three female dogs of pit bull mix charged and attacked her. They took her to the ground and bit her about the arms and legs. Hadley attempted to fight the dogs off as she screamed for help, alerting a neighbor, Vanlanham, 48, disabled laborer, who lived across the street. Taking a stick with him, Vanlanham immediately ran to Hadley, who had regained her footing, and struck one of the dogs with it. As he worked to free Hadley of the dogs, a car stopped at the scene, and Hadley entered it. Vanlanham attempted to escape to the hood of the car, but the dogs pulled him from it, took him to the ground, and mauled him, inflicting severe injury to his legs and feet. Police arrived and dispersed the dogs. Hadley and Vanlanham required hospital treatment, including surgery, for their wounds, Vanlanham developing complications that necessitated amputation of several fingers and toes. 82075-9347



GARY DEWAYNE VINSON, JR.

Sylvester, Georgia

Gary DeWayne Vinson, Jr., died helping attempt to save Joshua Perry from drowning, Albany, Georgia, August 3, 2008. Joshua, 11, and his brother had entered the swift water of the Flint River while playing on the bank and were struggling against a man who then attempted to save them. In another party, Vinson, 23, business operator, responded to the scene with friends after being alerted to the incident. From the bank they first linked arms to try to aid the boys and their rescuer, and then they swam out when Joshua became separated from the man. As the man returned Joshua's brother to the bank, Joshua struggled against Vinson's friends, and he then struggled against Vinson and submerged him as Vinson attempted a rescue. They did not resurface. Joshua's body was recovered from the river two hours later, and Vinson's was recovered the following morning. Both had drowned. 81464-9372



ALEXANDER J. WHITNEY

Grand Haven, Michigan

Alexander J. Whitney saved a boy from drowning, Grand Haven, Michigan, August 3, 2009. A 16-year-old boy was in wadable water near shore at a Lake Michigan beach when he was pulled farther out by a very strong current. He clung to a buoy about 120 feet from shore, buffeted by high waves. Alexander, 17, high school student, was in another party on the beach in that vicinity. He took a life ring from the beach and waded and swam toward the boy as others on the beach held a line that was attached to the ring. As the line was not long enough, they had to release it as Alexander continued out. Alexander reached the boy, gave him the ring, and then attempted to swim with him against the current toward shore. Instead, they were carried about 100 feet farther out. Towing the boy, Alexander swam parallel with the beach

to get out of the current. He then towed him toward shore and reached wad-
able water, where others aided the boy from the lake. Alexander was tired
and had taken in water, and he and the boy were checked by paramedics at
the scene. They recovered. 82461-9376



ELIJAH JARRED WITTUM
Cleveland, North Carolina

Elijah Jarred Wittum saved Marlon Porfirio from drowning, Cooleemee, North Carolina, May 30, 2009. Marlon, 15, was swept downstream by the very swift current of the South Yadkin River, which was swollen and mud-died from heavy rain. He shouted for help. In another party at the scene, Elijah, 16, high school student, was in wadable water near the bank. He immediately entered the deeper water and swam downstream after Marlon, reaching him at a point about 30 feet out. Both boys then submerged, but Elijah broke free and surfaced. He went under the water, found Marlon, and returned him to the surface. Holding to Marlon, Elijah swam toward the bank as the current carried them downstream. They reached a tree that extended from the bank over the water, and Elijah grasped it. Men who were fishing nearby took Marlon into the tree and then to the bank, Elijah following. Marlon was taken to the hospital, and Elijah was tired after the rescue and sustained scratches to his arms, but he recovered. 82286-9338

HEROIC ACTS RECOGNIZED DURING 2011

The following persons were cited by the Carnegie Hero Fund Commission in 2011 for having performed outstanding acts of heroism. In each case, a Carnegie Medal and a financial grant were awarded.



ROBIN ADAIR
Port Orchard, Washington

Robin Adair saved Bobbi Stott from burning, Belfair, Washington, August 22, 2010. Bobbi, 11 months old, was in a playpen in the master bedroom of her family's mobile home when fire broke out on the structure's front porch. Her mother escaped with three other children, and since flames grew to block her re-entry for Bobbi, she tried to gain access to the bedroom through one of its windows. Adair, 22, homemaker, and her boyfriend were driving in the area when they saw the fire. Adair joined Bobbi's mother at the window and, after removing its screen, climbed up to the window with help from the mother and entered the bedroom. Smoke inside extending almost to the floor obscured visibility, but Adair made her way to the playpen in the far corner of the room. She picked Bobbi up and, covering her with a blanket, turned back toward the window. Momentarily blinded by the smoke, she



2011 Carnegie Medal awardee Narong Khaokham, a native of Thailand, immigrated to the U.S. and settled in Oregon about five years before his death in an act of heroism on Oct. 6, 2010. While boating in Netarts Bay, Ore., he attempted to save a distressed boater from the rough surf. Both men died after their vessels capsized.



Lauren Winstead of Collierville, Tenn., became one of the youngest awardees of the Carnegie Medal in more than a decade when she was recognized in 2011 for an act of heroism she performed at age 12. She helped to save a man from drowning in the Gulf of Mexico while on vacation with her family. Lauren is shown with James K. Foster of Memphis, Tenn., who also went to the man's aid. Photo by Brad Luttrell of Louisville, Ky.

followed her boyfriend's voice to the window and handed Bobbi outside. Aided by the others, Adair then climbed through the window and dropped to the ground. Flames grew to destroy much of the structure. Bobbi was not injured, but Adair sought medical treatment for back pain. 83455-9468



DIONYSIOS AGELATOS

Albany, Georgia

Dionysios Agelatos died attempting to save Barbara J. Agelatos from drowning, May 15, 2010, South Palm Beach, Florida. Swimming in the Atlantic Ocean, Barbara, 57, encountered difficulty and called for help. Her husband, Dionysios, 70, retired contractor, who was on the beach, entered the water for her, as did two other men who became aware of the situation. Dionysios also encountered difficulty in the water and was overcome. He was returned to the beach by the other men, as was Barbara. Responding lifeguards attempted to resuscitate the couple. They were then taken to the hospital but could not be revived, as both had drowned. 83179-9462



MEGAN ELIZABETH ALLEN

Raleigh, North Carolina

Megan Elizabeth Allen helped to save Richard B. Bennett from drowning, North Myrtle Beach, South Carolina, August 14, 2010. Bennett, 59, was attempting to swim across a channel in Hog Inlet when he was swept by a strong tidal current out into the Atlantic Ocean. A man in a 14-foot skiff went out after him, but the boat capsized in the rough surf when he attempted to pull Bennett, who was unconscious, aboard. Allen, 25, sales assistant, was on a personal watercraft in the vicinity and came upon the men. She threw a line to them, but it fouled the motor of her craft, leaving it without power. With the other man remaining at his boat, Allen held to Bennett, who outweighed her, on the watercraft as it drifted away, its course taking them toward shore. When they reached wadable water atop a sandbar, Allen

pushed Bennett onto the watercraft and shouted for help. Men responded from the beach and removed them to safety; likewise, the other man was returned to shore by others. Exhausted, Bennett was taken to the hospital for observation, and he recovered. Allen was tired and shaken after the rescue, and she recovered the next day. 84076-9461



MARTIN C. ALLERDING

Hastings, Michigan

Martin C. Allering died after helping to save Wayne R. Seeley, Sr., from drowning, Hastings, Michigan, January 4, 2010. Seeley, 64, and his wife were riding an all-terrain vehicle on ice-covered Middle Lake when the vehicle broke through an area of thin ice at a point about 300 feet from the bank. Their friend, Allering, 63, retired maintenance supervisor, and another man responded from about 100 feet away. Although he had a history of heart disease, Allering stood at the edge of the broken ice, grasped Seeley by an arm, and attempted to pull him from the open water. He then extended an ice auger to Seeley, who grasped hold of it, but again he struggled in his attempt to pull Seeley out. After the other man pulled Seeley's wife onto solid ice, he joined Allering and together they pulled Seeley from the open water. They dragged him away, but within moments he broke through the ice a second time. Allering and the other man again pulled him to safety. Using his all-terrain vehicle, Allering then drove Seeley's wife from the ice and toward his nearby home, but en route he suffered a heart attack and fell to the ground. He was taken to the hospital but could not be revived. Seeley and his wife recovered from cold-water immersion. 82849-9437



PETER SHANE AMBLER

Dallas, Oregon

Peter Shane Ambler helped attempt to save Michael S. Stewart from drowning, Netarts, Oregon, October 6, 2010. Stewart, 61, was crabbing in Netarts Bay when his 12-foot boat was carried by a very strong tidal current through the narrow mouth of the bay into the Pacific Ocean, where seven-foot waves were breaking. He yelled and signaled for help. Ambler, 44, store manager, and a male companion were also crabbing in the bay, in Ambler's 18-foot boat. Alerted to Stewart's situation, they immediately responded, leaving the bay through its mouth and approaching Stewart's boat in the breaker zone. As they closed in on Stewart's boat, which was then about 300 feet from shore, Stewart threw them a rope, but it fell short. After Ambler circled back to Stewart's boat on another pass, Stewart again threw the line, but again it fell short. On a third pass, Ambler's companion threw a line to Stewart, and Stewart caught it. A large wave then capsized Stewart's boat, sending him into the water. Ambler and his companion pulled Stewart aboard their boat, but then another large wave caused it to capsize. Surfacing, Ambler secured a hold of both his companion, who was unresponsive, and his overturned boat as they were carried farther out to sea. A Coast Guard helicopter responded and lifted Ambler from the ocean by means of a rescue basket. His companion was recovered by fire department personnel using a personal watercraft, and Stewart was recovered by a Coast Guard rescue boat. Ambler was taken to the hospital for treatment of hypothermia and nearly drowning, and he recovered, but neither his companion nor Stewart could be revived.

83565-9442



PAUL A. ANSOLABEHERE

Minnetonka, Minnesota

Paul A. Ansolabehere helped to save Robert Fiske from burning, Eden Prairie, Minnesota, October 5, 2009. Fiske, 66, was the lone occupant of a twin-engine airplane that lost power while in flight. The plane crash-landed in a wooded ravine, trapping Fiske inside, and flames broke out at the right side of the fuselage, near the wing. Ansolabehere, 45, business executive, had followed the stricken plane's course while traveling in the vicinity. He then ran into the ravine and mounted the plane's left wing, joining another man who had responded. Ansolabehere tried to gain access to the smoke-filled cabin by attempting to open its canopy and breaking out a window, but he was not successful. The two men then obtained a metal bar from the plane's nearby storage compartment and with it broke through the window. They then reached inside the plane and pulled Fiske out onto the wing. Flames had grown to reach into the trees, and they breached the cabin from its right side. Ansolabehere and the other man lowered Fiske to the ground and, with the help of others who were responding, carried him from the ravine to safety. Fiske was hospitalized for treatment of injuries sustained in the crash and for smoke inhalation. He recovered. Ansolabehere sustained puncture wounds to a hand, minor burns to his face, and singed hair, and he too recovered. 82916-9419



KEVIN JOSEPH BARBEE

Lewiston, Idaho

Kevin Joseph Barbee helped to save Kerry A. Wagner from burning, Moscow, Idaho, June 27, 2010. Trapped by wreckage, Wagner, 51, was unconscious in the driver's seat of his pickup truck after a highway accident in which the truck collided head on with another pickup. The two vehicles came to a stop upright, parallel to each other, and only about five feet apart.

Flames broke out at the front of the other pickup, the driver of which died in the accident. Motorists, including Barbee, 44, lumber grader, stopped at the scene. He responded to Wagner's pickup and broke out windows on its driver's side to access Wagner. Another man had entered the vehicle through its front passenger door and moved part of the wreckage away to free Wagner. Despite flames by then issuing from the front of that vehicle, Barbee went between the trucks to its passenger side, joining a third man who had arrived. The heat between the vehicles was intense. With Wagner freed, Barbee leaned into the pickup, grasped him, and with the two other rescuers pulled him out of the truck. They carried him to safety within minutes of flames engulfing both pickups. Although spared from burning, Wagner suffered multiple injuries in the collision, requiring hospitalization and surgery. He recovered. 83715-9472



CODY ALAN BEASLEY

Okeechobee, Florida

Cody Alan Beasley helped to save a woman from drowning, Fort Pierce, Florida, August 17, 2011. At night, a 41-year-old woman jumped from a bridge into the Indian River and was swept away by a strong tidal current. Cody, 17, high school student, was fishing from a catwalk below the bridge with several friends when they heard the woman hit the water and then saw her being carried into the darkness. They jumped from the catwalk into the river and swam about 350 feet to the woman, who was floating on her back at a point about 385 feet from the closer bank. They grasped the woman and together swam with difficulty against the current toward the bank. Reaching wadable water, they pulled the woman toward an accessible point on the bank, where emergency personnel had responded. Cody and the others removed the woman from the river. She was hospitalized for treatment of broken ribs and other injuries, and she recovered. Cody was tired after the rescue and sustained lacerations to his feet, and he too recovered. 83524-9483



ROLAND MONTE BLAKE, JR.

Shawnee, Oklahoma

Roland Monte Blake, Jr., saved Ronnie D. Roets from drowning, Shawnee, Oklahoma, July 3, 2010. Ronnie, 7, was caught by the swift current of runoff in a drainage ditch that extended through a residential neighborhood and ended at the entrance to a belowground culvert. He was seen attempting to grasp a concrete-slab bridge that crossed the ditch by Blake, 44, maintenance employee, who lived nearby. Blake immediately ran to the bridge and reached for Ronnie, but Ronnie was swept under the bridge as he was being carried toward the culvert. Blake ran along the bank of the ditch to a point beyond Ronnie and entered the water. Surfacing, he intercepted and caught Ronnie and then was swept farther downstream while holding him. After submerging a few times with Ronnie, Blake managed to throw him to a woman on the bank, and she took him to safety. Blake was carried to a point near the culvert from which he succeeded in climbing from the ditch. He suffered minor cuts to his legs, from which he recovered. 83384-9467



STEVEN J. BOLO

Hastings, Michigan

Steven J. Bolo saved Nancy V. and helped to save Wayne R. Seeley, Sr., from drowning, Hastings, Michigan, January 4, 2010. Wayne Seeley, 64, and his wife, Nancy, 63, were riding an all-terrain vehicle on ice-covered Middle Lake when the vehicle broke through an area of thin ice at a point about 300 feet from the bank. Bolo, 62, retired machine repair worker, and another man responded from about 100 feet away. Bolo stood at the edge of the broken ice, grasped Nancy by an arm, and with great effort pulled her onto solid ice. He dragged her away from the hole but then returned to it, as the other man was struggling in his attempt to remove Wayne from the open water. Bolo

grasped Wayne by a wrist and with the other man removed Wayne to solid ice. They dragged him away, but within moments he broke through the ice a second time. Bolo and the other man again pulled him to safety. Wayne and Nancy recovered from cold-water immersion. 82850-9438



PETER BOTERENBROOD

Norton Shores, Michigan

Peter Boterenbrood rescued Christopher F. Porter from burning, Norton Shores, Michigan, July 24, 2010. Porter, 39, was the lone occupant of a single-engine airplane that crash-landed in a wooded area after losing power while in flight. As tree limbs blocked the door on the left side of the fuselage and flames broke out on its right side, just outside the cockpit, Porter was trapped in the wreckage. He shouted for help. Boterenbrood, 44, a police officer from a neighboring municipality, was off-duty and in his home near the scene. Alerted to the crash, he responded immediately and approached the plane. Boterenbrood moved branches that were blocking the plane's left side and then opened the door, finding that flames were entering the cockpit. He reached inside, grasped Porter, and, pulling hard on him, freed him from the wreckage. They fell to the ground. Boterenbrood dragged Porter away from the plane and then, aided by a responding police officer, dragged him farther to safety as the cockpit became engulfed by flames. Porter was hospitalized for treatment of injuries sustained in the crash, and he also suffered a minor burn. Boterenbrood recovered from minor cuts and scratches.

83425-9493



DAVID L. BRAGA
Modesto, California

David L. Braga saved Michelle Moua from burning, Merced, California, February 18, 2010. Michelle, 1, was in her family's second-floor apartment after fire broke out in the unit's bedroom. Her mother escaped the apartment with another child and shouted for help. Braga, 32, window tinter, who lived nearby, was walking near the scene and saw smoke issuing from the building. He responded to the front of the apartment, where he learned that Michelle was inside. Braga kicked open the apartment door and entered, but dense smoke forced him out. He removed his shirt, held it to his face, and entered the apartment again. Moving on his stomach, and aided by the light from his cellular telephone, Braga advanced through the smoke toward the living room, en route passing the bedroom as flames extended through its doorway. Braga followed the sound of Michelle's voice to find her on a couch in the living room. He grasped and cradled her in his arms and then turned and, on his knees, went back to the apartment door and exited the unit. Braga handed Michelle to her mother. After being assisted down the stairs to the ground, he collapsed. He was given oxygen at the scene and then was taken to the hospital for treatment of smoke inhalation, as was Michelle. They recovered. 82948-9424



JEFFREY LLOYD BREUER
Eden Prairie, Minnesota

Jeffrey Lloyd Breuer saved Arnold M. Bellis from drowning, Saint Paul, Minnesota, May 8, 2010. Bellis, 87, remained in the driver's seat of his car after it rolled down a boat ramp and entered the Mississippi River. The four-door sedan began to submerge at a point about 25 feet from the bank as two fishermen in a boat attempted to remove Bellis through the window of the driver's door. Also boating in the vicinity, Breuer, 50, pilot, came upon the scene. As he closed in on the car, he saw that the window of its front passen-

ger door was open. Breuer dived from his boat and swam to the car as it was sinking nose first. He submerged and partially entered the vehicle, head first, through the open window. Breuer reached for Bellis, grasped him about the shoulder, and pulled him out through the window as he maneuvered backward from the car. Breuer surfaced with Bellis and swam him toward the bank, one of the fishermen providing aid. Bellis was taken to the hospital, where he was detained for treatment; he recovered. 83334-9458



RICHARD L. BROWN

Enfield, Connecticut

Richard L. Brown saved Walter L. Bushey from burning, Enfield, Connecticut, April 23, 2010. Bushey, 79, who used a wheelchair, was inside his one-story house after fire erupted in the attached garage, which adjoined the living room. As he attempted to leave the house, his wheelchair became lodged in an interior doorway. A neighbor, Brown, 64, who was disabled, observed flames and smoke issuing from the garage and roof of Bushey's house. Despite recovering from recent surgery and having difficulty with mobility, Brown approached the burning house, calling to Bushey and his wife. He climbed over the porch railing to avoid the nearby flames and entered the house through its front door. Crossing the living room, Brown located Bushey and his wife in a hallway. He dislodged Bushey's wheelchair and took it to the living room and outside to the porch, where others aided in lifting Bushey to safety. Bushey's wife also exited the structure to safety. Flames spread to the living room. Brown and Bushey and his wife were all taken to the hospital for treatment of smoke inhalation, and they recovered.

83168-9451



ANNA BUTTACCIO

Lyons, New York

Anna Buttaccio helped to rescue Michael C. Cline from burning, Palmyra, New York, June 10, 2010. Cline, 30, was the driver of an automobile that, in a highway accident at night, left the roadway and came to rest down a wooded embankment, tilted toward its driver's side. Flames broke out on the car and entered its interior. Conscious, Cline was trapped in the vehicle, unable to release his safety belt. Buttaccio, 45, business operator, and her husband drove upon the scene and stopped. Learning that the burning car was occupied, they descended to it and worked to remove its windshield. Unsuccessful in accessing Cline through the opening, they went to the window of the driver's door and repeatedly reached inside the vehicle in attempts to free him. During one such attempt, an explosion at the car forced them from it. As her husband turned to retrieve a knife that was thrown to him, Buttaccio reached through the window and with difficulty pulled Cline partway out. Her husband then re-entered and cut Cline's safety belt, after which he and Buttaccio pulled Cline from the car and to safety. Cline required extensive hospitalization for treatment of significant burns and other serious injuries. Buttaccio also required hospital treatment, for a second-degree burn to her left hand and breathing difficulty. 83325-9454



JOSEPH A. BUTTACCIO, JR.

Lyons, New York

Joseph A. Buttaccio, Jr., helped to rescue Michael C. Cline from burning, Palmyra, New York, June 10, 2010. Cline, 30, was the driver of an automobile that, in a highway accident at night, left the roadway and came to rest down a wooded embankment, tilted toward its driver's side. Flames broke out on the car and entered its interior. Conscious, Cline was trapped in the vehicle, unable to release his safety belt. Buttaccio, 47, postal clerk, and his wife drove upon the scene and stopped. Learning that the burning car was occupied,

they descended to it and worked to remove its windshield. Unsuccessful in accessing Cline through the opening, they went to the window of the driver's door and repeatedly reached inside the vehicle in attempts to free him. During one such attempt, an explosion at the car forced Buttaccio from it, his hair aflame. As he turned to retrieve a knife that was thrown to him, his wife reached through the window and with difficulty pulled Cline partway out. Buttaccio then re-entered and cut Cline's safety belt, after which he and his wife pulled Cline from the car and to safety. Cline required extensive hospitalization for treatment of significant burns and other serious injuries. Buttaccio also required hospital treatment, for second-degree burns to his hands and forehead that caused him to miss a week's work. 83324-9453



RICHARD JOSEPH CAMP

Long Beach, California

Richard Joseph Camp helped to save an indeterminate number of people from assault, Long Beach, California, March 5, 2010. A man armed with a revolver entered a bank, approached a teller window, and demanded money from the teller. A customer at the window, Camp, 39, general contractor, moved to a point about 10 feet away but remained present, as did several other customers and bank employees, as the robbery attempt ensued. When the assailant started to mount the counter, Camp rushed him from behind, grasped him, and took him to the floor. They struggled for control of the gun, which the assailant fired repeatedly, striking Camp once in his right thigh. Despite his wound, Camp continued to struggle against the assailant, disarming him and throwing the revolver aside. Another male customer secured the weapon and then joined in the struggle to subdue the assailant by pinning his legs. When they discovered that the assailant was armed with a second gun, Camp seized it and sent it across the floor. Police arrived shortly and arrested the assailant. Camp was treated at the hospital for his gunshot wound, which required surgery a month later. 83017-9486

CARNEGIE HERO FUND COMMISSION



MICHAEL T. CHURA

Baldwinsville, New York

Michael T. Chura helped to save Priscilla R. Roslyn from burning, Egg Harbor Township, New Jersey, August 11, 2010. Roslyn, 61, remained in the driver's seat of her automobile after an accident in which the vehicle left the roadway, rolled down a grassy embankment, and came to rest upside down. Conscious but dazed, Roslyn was still secured by her safety belt as flames broke out on the exposed underside of the vehicle, at its front, and began to spread. On vacation, Chura, 48, fire chief, drove upon the scene just after the accident. He parked and ran to the burning vehicle's driver's door, which was open. To free Roslyn, he entered the vehicle, head first, through the window opening of the rear driver's-side door and worked to release her safety belt. Flames were entering the vehicle. Chura was successful after repeated attempts, and Roslyn dropped to the ceiling of the car. Other men who responded to the scene pulled Roslyn from the vehicle as Chura backed through the window. He and the other men moved Roslyn away from the car as flames grew, engulfing it shortly and destroying it. Roslyn was hospitalized for treatment of injuries sustained in the accident, but she was not burned. 83517-9464



ORVILLE D. CLINTON

Salina, Kansas

Orville D. Clinton helped to save Tanner S. Porter and Tyler L. B. Sunderlin from burning, Salina, Kansas, February 20, 2010. Porter, 18, was the driver of a car that collided with a pickup truck and left the roadway. It came to rest upright in a pasture, and flames broke out in its front end. Porter remained conscious but was trapped in the front-seat area of the wreckage, as was a passenger, Sunderlin, 18, who had been rendered unconscious. Clinton, 58, production worker who lived nearby, drove upon the scene. He reported the accident and then ran to the burning car. Another man who lived nearby

heard the accident and also reported it, and he ran to the scene. Clinton removed pieces of the windshield and pulled on the dash to free Porter as the other man attempted to fight the growing flames with a piece of the wreckage. They then opened the driver's door, reached inside, and pulled Porter out, learning from him that Sunderlin was in the burning car. After taking Porter to safety, the men returned to the car and again reached inside through the driver's door, for Sunderlin, whom they found trapped by wreckage. Another man who had responded by then leaned through the window of the passenger door and worked to free Sunderlin as flames grew and spread both toward the passenger side and inside the vehicle, to the dash. After the men freed Sunderlin, Clinton and the second man pulled him from the car and then, joined by the third man, carried him to safety. Flames grew quickly to engulf and destroy the vehicle. Porter and Sunderlin were hospitalized for treatment of their injuries, requiring surgery, but they were not burned. Clinton suffered cuts to his hands but did not require medical treatment, and he recovered. 82973-9425



CURTIS W. COMBS, SR.

Mechanicsville, Virginia

Curtis W. Combs, Sr., helped to rescue Kelley B. Peele from burning, Mechanicsville, Virginia, February 15, 2011. Peele, 48, remained in the driver's seat of her sport utility vehicle after an accident in which the vehicle left the roadway, struck a tree, and caught fire at its front end. She was conscious but badly injured and trapped by wreckage. Combs, 49, collision technician, approached the scene in his vehicle and stopped, joining another motorist who had come upon the scene and was attempting a rescue. Combs went to the burning vehicle and attempted to open its doors but was unsuccessful. He then entered the vehicle head first through the window of the front passenger door and, despite flames by then entering the passenger compartment, worked with the other man to free Peele, whose legs were trapped. The other man then began to pull Peele through the window of the driver's

door as Combs withdrew from the vehicle. The men took Peele to safety as flames grew quickly to engulf the interior of the vehicle. Peele sustained minor burns to her hands and required hospitalization for treatment of other injuries. 83863-9495



JOHN CONLEY
Barrington, Rhode Island

John Conley helped to save a woman from drowning, New Bedford, Massachusetts, August 7, 2010. An 86-year-old woman was the driver of an automobile that in an accident left the parking lot of a marina, entered New Bedford Harbor, and began to sink in water about 10 feet deep at a point about 50 feet from the bank. Witnessing the accident, Conley, 54, chiropractor, ran to his boat, which was docked at the marina, donned a diving mask and fins, and then jumped into the water and swam about 60 feet to the car. Using a tool, he broke out the car's back window and with another man who responded cleared pieces of glass from the window, both men incurring cuts to their arms and hands. Water entering the car caused it to sink quickly. Moving to the driver's side of the vehicle, Conley twice submerged in attempts to pull the woman through the partially open window of the driver's door, but he was unsuccessful each time and surfaced for air. On a third attempt, Conley pulled the woman out of the car. They surfaced. Conley and the other man swam her to the dock and with the aid of others hoisted her from the water. The woman was hospitalized for treatment of an underlying health condition, and she recovered. Conley also required hospital treatment, for cuts, and he too recovered. 83413-9480



JOHN L. CROSBY, JR.

Mandeville, Louisiana

John L. Crosby, Jr., helped to save a man from drowning, Mandeville, Louisiana, April 19, 2010. In a suicide attempt, a 30-year-old man jumped from the edge of the Lake Pontchartrain Causeway at a point about 11 miles from the closer shore. Crosby, 58, real estate developer, was approaching in his vehicle and witnessed him jump. Crosby stopped at the scene and called causeway police. Concluding that the man would not survive without immediate aid, he then removed his shoes and jumped into the 15-foot-deep lake after him, despite having no ready means of egress. Crosby approached the man from behind, grasped him about the neck, and supported his head above water. Maintaining his hold of the man, Crosby trod water until police arrived shortly and threw flotation devices to them. One of the officers then descended a rope ladder into the lake and with Crosby's aid secured the man into a rescue basket. He was lifted to the causeway deck, followed by Crosby and the officer; Crosby had been in the water about 20 minutes. Crosby was treated at the scene for hypothermia, as was the man, who was then taken to the hospital. 83105-9445



RONALD D. CURRY

Pacific Grove, California

Ronald D. Curry helped to save Margarito Garcia from drowning, Pacific Grove, California, November 8, 2009. Garcia and another man were in a 15-foot aluminum boat off Point Pinos on Monterey Bay of the Pacific Ocean when the boat capsized in rough surf. They shouted for help, drawing the attention of Curry, 50, painting contractor, and a friend, who were on a golf course on the shore in that area. Curry and his friend ran into the water and waded and swam toward the men, their course made difficult by high waves breaking among large rocks near shore and the coldness of the water. Garcia's companion reached an exposed rock and clung to it, but Garcia

floated face down about 300 feet from shore. Curry and his friend reached him, positioned him on his back, and then with difficulty retraced their course to shore, pulling him. Lifeguards arrived and rescued Garcia's companion. Curry was fatigued and cold and had cuts to his legs from the rocks, but he recovered. 82782-9491



KEVIN M. DANIELS

Lequille, Nova Scotia

Kevin M. Daniels rescued Harvey E. Bailey from burning, Lequille, Nova Scotia, May 28, 2010. Bailey, 60, was alone in his 1.5-story wooden house after fire broke out in a first-floor bedroom. Daniels, 44, disabled carpenter's helper, who lived nearby, was alerted to the fire. Responding to the scene, he kicked in the front door but was unable to enter the house because of the flames. Daniels ran to the rear of the structure and opened the unlocked back door. He went to his hands and knees, looked inside, and could see Bailey lying on the floor about 15 feet into the house. Despite smoke extending nearly to the floor and flames spreading to the ceiling of the kitchen, Daniels crawled inside the house and continued to Bailey, who, unconscious, was lying near the room of the fire's origin. Grasping Bailey by the feet, Daniels backed to the rear door, dragging him. He pulled Bailey from the house and took him to a point of safety. Flames spread and destroyed the house. Bailey was hospitalized three months for treatment of significant burn injuries, and Daniels also was taken to the hospital, for observation.

83226-9446



CARMEN F. DEGREGORIO, JR.

Millville, New Jersey

Carmen F. DeGregorio, Jr., died after rescuing Shatora Jenkins-Thomas from assault, Millville, New Jersey, November 27, 2007. Jenkins-Thomas, 24, jumped from a moving car during a domestic dispute with her boyfriend, who was driving, and ran into the parking lot of a nearby convenience store. The boyfriend followed her in the car, caught up with her, and attempted to force her into the car's trunk. DeGregorio, 51, towing dispatcher, who was nearby, intervened. A retired police officer, he struggled against the assailant, preventing him from shutting the trunk's lid on Jenkins-Thomas, and freed her from the trunk. Jenkins-Thomas and DeGregorio fled as the assailant pursued them in the car. At DeGregorio's urging, Jenkins-Thomas ran to the convenience store and to safety inside while DeGregorio ran in another direction. The assailant chased DeGregorio and struck him with the car, knocking him to the pavement. The car then crashed into a barrier, and the assailant fled on foot. He was arrested shortly. Jenkins-Thomas sustained abrasions about her body that required hospital treatment. DeGregorio was hospitalized but died two days later of his injuries. 80858-9432



DANIEL L. DIAZ

Kent, Washington

Daniel L. Diaz died helping to save a boy from drowning, Rowena, Oregon, July 4, 2009. A 12-year-old boy was attempting to swim across a 300-foot-wide inlet along the Columbia River at a state park when he became fatigued and called out for help at a point about halfway across. In another party at the scene, Diaz, 33, mechanic, was on a dock that extended into the inlet. He entered the water from the dock and swam about 125 feet out to the boy. Diaz spoke to the boy, and he and the boy started to swim to the dock. After they

had swum about 100 feet, Diaz experienced difficulty and called for help. Others at the scene responded to aid him, but he submerged. The boy swam to the dock on his own and exited the water to safety. Rescue divers found Diaz about two hours later. He had drowned. 83317-9441



MICHAEL AUSTIN DUDLEY

Chester, Virginia

Michael Austin Dudley attempted to save Cindy M. Parker from assault, Chester, Virginia, June 23, 2010. Parker, 45, was attacked by a man in the entryway of a restaurant. From the parking lot in front of the restaurant, Dudley, 18, store employee, saw the attack. He ran to the entryway, grasped the assailant, and, pulling him off Parker, forced him outside and to the sidewalk. The assailant stood, produced a handgun from his pocket, and pointed it at Dudley. He then turned and fired it at Parker, mortally wounding her. The assailant next shot Dudley in the abdomen, felling him to the pavement, before fleeing. He was apprehended shortly by police. Dudley required six days' hospitalization for treatment, including surgery, of his wound, from which he recovered in six months. 83501-9478



STEVE FENTON

Keansburg, New Jersey

Steve Fenton helped to save Brian Mendoza from drowning, Keansburg, New Jersey, June 6, 2010. Brian, 11, was treading water in Raritan Bay of the Atlantic Ocean after his inflatable raft was blown away from the beach. A man from shore took a one-person kayak into the choppy water to look for him but could not find him. Another man from shore, Fenton, 37, carpenter, waded and swam out to the kayak and boarded it. Although he had never used a kayak, Fenton paddled farther out in search of Brian. Finding him a good distance into the bay, Fenton took Brian aboard the kayak and began to paddle back to shore. His progress was slowed by his having to go against the

wind and current, and about halfway back, the kayak rolled, throwing both Fenton and Brian into the bay. A boater who was alerted responded and pulled Brian aboard, but Fenton by then lacked the strength to aid in his own rescue. The crew of a responding Coast Guard boat took him aboard and transferred him to the other boat. Brian and Fenton were returned to shore uninjured. Fenton recovered from exhaustion within a few days. 83233-9463



GEORGE J. FLANAGAN

Swansea, Massachusetts

George J. Flanagan helped to save Michael A. Canty from burning, Swansea, Massachusetts, July 21, 2010. Canty, 23, was unconscious in the driver's seat of his sport utility vehicle after it left the highway at night, struck a tree, and caught fire at its front end. Flanagan, 63, retired teacher, and his brother were traveling on the highway and witnessed the accident. They stopped at the scene and, reporting the accident, approached the vehicle, finding that it was occupied. They attempted to open the vehicle's doors and to fight the fire with an extinguisher but were not successful. A state trooper responded to the scene within moments of being alerted, broke out the window of the rear passenger-side door, and attempted without success to cut Canty's safety belt before withdrawing for air. Gaining access to the front passenger-side door, the trooper entered the car but found that Canty was trapped by wreckage. When she asked for help from Flanagan and his brother, Flanagan leaned through the opened front door, despite flames that were beginning to enter the vehicle beneath the dashboard, and grasped Canty by an arm. His brother leaned through the broken-out window and grasped Canty by the belt. The three rescuers pulled on Canty repeatedly, until he was free. They dragged him from the vehicle and took him to safety as flames grew to fill and engulf the car, destroying it. Canty was hospitalized for treatment of his injuries. 83479-9477



ROBERT HUGH FLANAGAN

Denver, Colorado

Robert Hugh Flanagan helped to save Michael A. Canty from burning, Swansea, Massachusetts, July 21, 2010. Canty, 23, was unconscious in the driver's seat of his sport utility vehicle after it left the highway at night, struck a tree, and caught fire at its front end. Flanagan, 61, associate professor, and his brother were traveling on the highway and witnessed the accident. They stopped at the scene and, reporting the accident, approached the vehicle, finding that it was occupied. They attempted to open the vehicle's doors and to fight the fire with an extinguisher but were not successful. A state trooper responded to the scene within moments of being alerted, broke out the window of the rear passenger-side door, and attempted without success to cut Canty's safety belt before withdrawing for air. After Flanagan then reached through the window and unlocked the front passenger-side door, the trooper entered the car through that door but found that Canty was trapped by wreckage. When she asked for help from Flanagan and his brother, Flanagan leaned through the broken-out window, despite flames that were beginning to enter the vehicle beneath the dashboard, and grasped Canty by the belt. His brother leaned through the opened front door and grasped him by an arm. The three rescuers pulled on Canty repeatedly, until he was free. They dragged him from the vehicle and took him to safety as flames grew to fill and engulf the car, destroying it. Canty was hospitalized for treatment of his injuries. Flanagan recovered from bruising. 83478-9476



DENNIS FLEMING

Mechanicsville, Maryland

Dennis Fleming helped to save Kevin L. Gladhill, Michael G. Krall, and Russell U. Neff III from drowning, Lusby, Maryland, February 10, 2011. Gladhill, 32; Krall, 35; and Neff, 55, were fishing from a 21-foot boat in Chesapeake Bay, in the vicinity of turbulence created by the discharge of

water from submerged conduits of a power plant nearby on the bank. Opposing winds amplified the turbulence, creating standing waves five feet high. A wave swamped the boat, and another capsized it, sending the men into the 34-degree water. They secured a hold of the boat, only the bow of which was exposed. Fleming, 51, environmental resources administrator, and a friend were fishing the same waters from Fleming's 21-foot boat nearby and witnessed the accident. Radioing for help, Fleming immediately took his boat into the turbulent water and approached a point alongside the partially submerged one. Fleming, who left the boat's controls, and his friend grasped the men one at a time and hauled them with difficulty into the stern of that boat. They then took the men to the safety of a harbor, from which they were transferred to the hospital for treatment of hypothermia. They recovered.

83848-9488



DONALD L. GALLOWAY

Genesee, Idaho

Donald L. Galloway helped to save Kerry A. Wagner from burning, Moscow, Idaho, June 27, 2010. Trapped by wreckage, Wagner, 51, was unconscious in the driver's seat of his pickup truck after a highway accident in which the truck collided head on with another pickup. The two vehicles came to a stop upright, parallel to each other, and only about five feet apart. Flames broke out at the front of the other pickup, the driver of which died in the accident. Motorists, including Galloway, 44, utility company foreman, stopped at the scene. He responded to the vehicles, going between them, as another man who had arrived entered the front passenger door of Wagner's truck and moved part of the wreckage away to free him. Flames by then issued from the front of Wagner's truck, and the heat between the vehicles was intense. With Wagner freed, Galloway and a third man who had arrived leaned into the pickup, grasped him, and with the first rescuer pulled him out of the truck. They carried him to safety within minutes of flames engulfing both pickups. Although spared from burning, Wagner suffered multiple injuries in the collision, requiring hospitalization and surgery. He recovered. Galloway recovered from a minor burn to his face. 83531-9473

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CAMERON C. GILBERT

Cool, California

Cameron C. Gilbert rescued Alex R. Abrahamian from assault, Rocklin, California, March 24, 2009. Abrahamian, 21, was visiting at a college campus and was walking on a sidewalk there when one of the male students, 22, jumped on his back and stabbed him repeatedly with a knife. Abrahamian screamed as he struggled against the assailant. Gilbert, 19, another student at the college, was walking nearby and saw the attack. He hurried to the men, stepped between them, and pushed them apart. When the assailant tried to resume his attack on Abrahamian, Gilbert pushed him to the ground. The assailant dropped the knife, which Gilbert then kicked away. As others tended to Abrahamian, Gilbert stood between him and the assailant until police arrived and arrested the assailant. Abrahamian was hospitalized three weeks for treatment of his wounds, which were severe. He recovered.

83673-9474



KEVIN ROBERT GOODING

Stoney Creek, Ontario

Kevin Robert Gooding rescued a man from burning, Hamilton, Ontario, November 21, 2008. A 68-year-old man was the driver and sole occupant of an automobile that struck another vehicle and then a guide rail while traveling on a municipal expressway. Flames burst out on the back of the car, which was carrying two five-gallon containers of gasoline, and spread to the vehicle's interior. Another motorist, Gooding, 43, auto worker, witnessed the accident and stopped at the scene. He approached the burning car and after a struggle opened its front passenger door. The car's driver, conscious but dazed, was lying on the front seat, the back of his jacket aflame. Gooding

leaned into the car and used his hands to pat out the flames on him. He then grasped the man and pulled him from the car and to the pavement. After helping him regain his footing, Gooding escorted the man away from the car, which was soon engulfed by flames. 81754-9433



KENNETH M. GOSS

Grand Junction, Colorado

Kenneth M. Goss saved David S., Judi M., Silas D., and Jachin S. Broadbent from drowning, Moab, Utah, April 9, 2010. David, 33, and his wife, Judi, 32, were rafting on the Colorado River with their sons, Silas, 3, and Jachin, 11 months, when their raft overturned while negotiating a set of rapids. They were thrown into the swift, 54-degree water and separated from the raft. Carried downstream, Judi held to the boys, and David attempted to flip the raft over. Goss, 38, delivery driver, was driving along the river at the scene when he saw the overturned raft and the nearby victims. Ascertaining from them that they needed help, Goss descended to the riverbank and entered the water. He swam about 200 feet to catch up to the victims, reaching Judi and the boys at a point about 100 feet from the bank. Goss seized the raft, which was nearby, and made it available to Judi and then David, both of whom also grasped it. They returned to the bank, Goss swimming with one arm while towing the raft, and exited the water to safety. Goss, who had swallowed water, collapsed from exhaustion and required hospital treatment for hypothermia, as did Jachin. They recovered. 83093-9417



MICHAEL S. HATFIELD

Richland, Washington

Michael S. Hatfield saved Alexandra C. Hatley from burning, Pasco, Washington, October 5, 2009. Alexandra, 12, was a passenger in the rear seat of an automobile that was involved in an accident on an interstate highway. The car immediately caught fire, as did the other vehicle, located about 10

feet away, that was involved in the collision. Severely injured and rendered unconscious, Alexandra lay on the seat as flames issued from the undercarriage of the vehicle. One of the motorists who stopped at the scene, Hatfield, 45, training specialist, approached the driver's side of the car containing Alexandra. He leaned into it through the rear door and worked to free Alexandra from her safety belt. Hatfield then lifted Alexandra, pulled her from the vehicle, and carried her to the median. Flames grew quickly to enter the car's back-seat area and then engulf the car. Alexandra was taken to the hospital, where she died the next day of her injuries. 83266-9413



JOSEPH D. HAYES

Sayreville, New Jersey

Joseph D. Hayes rescued Cheryl A. Napolitano from an attacking dog, Sayreville, New Jersey, August 31, 2007. Napolitano, 44, was walking her small dog on a residential street when an 80-pound, mixed-breed pit bull approached and attacked her and her dog, taking Napolitano to the pavement and mauling her. She shouted for help. Hayes, 51, maintenance technician, lived in the neighborhood and heard her scream. He immediately ran about 150 feet to the scene, where he grasped the dog by its hind legs and pulled it off Napolitano. When the dog then resumed its attack on her, Hayes kicked and punched it, and he aided Napolitano to her feet. The dog turned on Hayes, biting him, and it followed Hayes and Napolitano, menacing them, as they walked away. After circling them, the dog left the scene, but it was later seized. Napolitano and Hayes both required hospital treatment for their bite wounds, Napolitano sustaining them to her hands, left ear, and ankle, and Hayes to his chin. He recovered. 80745-9436



JAMES HOBBS

Hollywood, Florida

James Hobbs died attempting to save Nancy Alvarez from drowning, Dania Beach, Florida, June 25, 2010. While swimming in the Atlantic Ocean, Alvarez, 42, had difficulty returning to shore. In another party at the beach, Hobbs, 44, disabled, was alerted to her situation. He entered the water and swam out toward Alvarez, who was about 300 feet from the beach. When he had nearly reached her, Hobbs appeared to have difficulty in the water and was carried farther out. Others who responded returned Alvarez safely to the beach. Several men swam out to Hobbs, finding him unconscious and floating face down. They returned him to shore, where rescue personnel attempted cardiopulmonary resuscitation. Hobbs was then taken to the hospital, but he could not be revived. He had drowned. 83307-9450



JOSEPH W. HUGHART

Fort Gibson, Oklahoma

Joseph W. Hughart rescued Ray M. Williams, Jr., from burning, Haskell, Oklahoma, March 19, 2010. Williams, 33, was the driver of a pickup truck that, at night, left the highway, struck a culvert, and came to rest upright in a ditch. Severely injured in the accident, Williams retained consciousness but was trapped by his legs in the wreckage. Flames broke out at the front of the truck and spread, entering its interior. Driving by, Hughart, 39, sheriff's deputy, saw the flames and stopped at the scene. After attempting without success to open the truck's driver's door, he struck the window of that door with his flashlight until the window broke. Hughart then pulled on Williams as he started to emerge through the window opening, but Williams remained trapped. Hughart pulled himself up to a position on the driver's door and, standing on the base of the window, straddled Williams. Although Williams greatly outweighed him, Hughart pulled on him until he became free of the wreckage. The men fell to the ground, where Hughart rolled Williams away

from the truck until others arrived to help move him farther away. Flames shortly engulfed the vehicle. Williams required lengthy hospitalization for treatment of his injuries, which included third-degree burns. Hughart also was treated at the hospital, for a laceration to his right arm that required staples. He recovered. 83032-9415



JAY S. HUSCHER

Salina, Kansas

Jay S. Huscher helped to save Tanner S. Porter and Tyler L. B. Sunderlin from burning, Salina, Kansas, February 20, 2010. Porter, 18, was the driver of a car that collided with a pickup truck and left the roadway. It came to rest upright in a pasture, and flames broke out in its front end. Porter remained conscious but was trapped in the front-seat area of the wreckage, as was a passenger, Sunderlin, 18, who had been rendered unconscious. Huscher, 56, aircraft worker, who lived nearby, heard the accident. He reported it and then ran to the scene, joining another man who had responded. After Huscher attempted to fight the growing flames with a piece of the wreckage, he and the other man opened the driver's door, reached inside, and pulled Porter out, learning from him that Sunderlin was in the burning car. After taking Porter to safety, the men returned to the car and again reached inside through the driver's door, for Sunderlin, whom they found trapped by wreckage. Another man who had responded by then leaned through the window of the passenger door and worked to free Sunderlin as flames grew and spread both toward the passenger side and inside the vehicle, to the dash. After the men freed Sunderlin, Huscher and the first man pulled him from the car and then, joined by the third man, carried him to safety. Flames grew quickly to engulf and destroy the vehicle. Porter and Sunderlin were hospitalized for treatment of their injuries, requiring surgery, but they were not burned. 82974-9426



MARK IOVINO

Baysshore, New York

Mark Iovino helped to rescue Lesley Berman from burning, Westbury, New York, January 11, 2010. Berman, 56, was in her bedroom on the second floor of her two-story house after fire broke out in that room and filled the floor with dense smoke. First responders included Iovino, 41, police officer, and three other officers, all of whom entered the structure on learning that Berman was trapped inside. Climbing to the second floor, where he heard Berman in the burning bedroom, Iovino went to his hands and knees and crawled into the room. Sweeping with his hands, he located Berman on the floor about 15 feet into the room. He then stood, grasped Berman by the arms, and, guided by one of the other officers calling to him from the vicinity of the bedroom door, returned to the door, dragging Berman. Iovino handed her off to the other officers, who removed her to the first floor and outside to safety as Iovino fled the house for air. Berman required hospitalization for treatment of smoke inhalation and burns. Iovino was also taken to the hospital for treatment of smoke inhalation, and he recovered. 83071-9439



WILLIAM B. JACKSON, JR.

Hendersonville, North Carolina

William B. Jackson, Jr., died attempting to save William B. Jackson, Sr.; from drowning, Mill Spring, North Carolina, May 30, 2010. William, Sr., 47, was on his 16-foot pontoon boat in a cove of Lake Adger with others, including his young daughter. Unobserved, they entered the water, and William was next seen struggling in the water behind the boat. He then submerged. His son, William, Jr., 21, was also on the boat. William called out for his father and then jumped into the water after him. He too submerged, and neither man resurfaced. The daughter, who was wearing a life jacket, was removed from the water by other boaters. Responding rescue personnel later recovered the bodies of William and his father from the cove. They had drowned. 83221-9469



RICHARD A. JOHNSTON

Pittsfield, New Hampshire

Richard A. Johnston died attempting to save Heidi M. Johnston from burning, Pittsfield, New Hampshire, June 8, 2009. Heidi, 26, remained in her family's second-floor apartment after fire broke out in the unit's kitchen early in the morning. After alerting help, her father, Richard, 55, dishwasher, ascended the exterior stairs to the unit's only door and re-entered. He proceeded through a hall toward the kitchen and was last seen turning into the living room as flames from the kitchen intensified and blocked further access to the door. Responding firefighters found Richard in the living room and Heidi in the adjacent bedroom. Both had succumbed to effects of the fire.

83155-9440



DAVID RICHMOND JONES

Glenwood Springs, Colorado

David Richmond Jones helped to save an indeterminate number of people from assault, Long Beach, California, March 5, 2010. A man armed with a revolver entered a bank, approached a teller window, and demanded money from the teller. A male customer who was nearby rushed the assailant from behind as he started to mount the counter. He grasped the assailant, took him to the floor, and struggled against him for control of the gun, which the assailant fired repeatedly. Although the customer sustained a gunshot wound, he disarmed the assailant and threw the revolver aside. Another customer in the bank, Jones, 48, carpenter, had been seated at a desk about 25 feet from the teller window. After the shots were fired, he immediately ran toward where the men were struggling, en route securing the weapon. He then joined in the struggle to subdue the assailant by pinning the assailant's legs to the floor. When Jones and the other customer discovered that the assailant was armed with a second gun, Jones continued to hold him as the other customer seized the gun and sent it across the floor. Police arrived shortly and arrested the assailant. 82994-9487



THEOPHILUS I. JOSEPH

San Bernardino, California

Theophilus I. Joseph helped to rescue a woman from assault, Norco, California, April 4, 2009. A 31-year-old woman was alone inside the tanning salon she operated when a man entered and, threatening her with a knife, forced her to the floor in a back room. She screamed, attracting the attention of Joseph, 41, off-duty police officer who was in an office of an adjoining business with another man. Joseph followed the other man into the salon and to its back room, where they saw the assault. The other man grasped the assailant, who then turned on him and struggled against him. Joseph joined in the struggle, ending up on the floor with the assailant atop him as they fought for control of the knife. The men disarmed the assailant, who then broke away and fled the building. Joseph pursued him through the parking lot, tackled him, and held him until police arrived and arrested him. The woman was not injured. Joseph sustained scratches to his forehead; he recovered. 83152-9430



STEVEN J. KELLER

Covington, Louisiana

Steven J. Keller helped to save Rhonda W. Knickles from drowning, Mandeville, Louisiana, April 25, 2010. Knickles, 49, fell into Lake Pontchartrain after she was involved in an automobile accident on the Lake Pontchartrain Causeway at a point about six miles from the closer shore. On his way to work for a municipality at the far end of the bridge, Keller, 30, police officer, came upon the scene and saw Knickles floating face down in the 14-foot-deep water at a point about 60 feet from the bridge. As the first-arriving causeway police officer placed a ladder over the side of the bridge, Keller donned the officer's life vest and then descended the ladder and swam to Knickles. He turned her over, finding her unconscious, and supported her in 3.5-foot waves as a swift current in the lake carried them farther from the

bridge. Another motorist stopped at the scene and also donned a life vest and entered the water from the bridge. He swam to a life ring that had been thrown by the officer and took it to Keller, and together the men placed Knickles on the ring and held to it as they were carried farther away. Other causeway police officers arrived, and one of them entered the water with a flotation device and aided Knickles and her rescuers back to the causeway, where they were lifted to safety. Knickles was taken to the hospital but died of drowning the following day. Keller was nearly exhausted after the rescue, but he recovered. 831 26-9455



NARONG KHAOKHAM

Dallas, Oregon

Narong Khaokham died helping attempt to save Michael S. Stewart from drowning, Netarts, Oregon, October 6, 2010. Stewart, 61, was crabbing in Netarts Bay when his 12-foot boat was carried by a very strong tidal current through the narrow mouth of the bay into the Pacific Ocean, where seven-foot waves were breaking. He yelled and signaled for help. Khaokham, 67, retired carpenter, and a male companion were also crabbing in the bay, in the companion's 18-foot boat. Alerted to Stewart's situation, they immediately responded, leaving the bay through its mouth and approaching Stewart's boat in the breaker zone. As they closed in on Stewart's boat, which was then about 300 feet from shore, Stewart threw them a rope, but it fell short. After they circled back to Stewart's boat on another pass, Stewart again threw the line, but again it fell short. On a third pass, Khaokham threw a line to Stewart, and Stewart caught it. A large wave then capsized Stewart's boat, sending him into the water. Khaokham and his companion pulled Stewart aboard their boat, but then another large wave caused it to capsize. Surfacing, Khaokham's companion secured a hold of both Khaokham, who was unresponsive, and the overturned boat as they were carried farther out to sea. Khaokham was recovered by fire

department personnel using a personal watercraft, and Stewart was recovered by a Coast Guard rescue boat, but neither could be revived. Khaokham's companion, rescued by Coast Guard helicopter, required hospital treatment for nearly drowning, and he recovered. 83566-9443



GERALD A. LAMONICA

Dearborn Heights, Michigan

Gerald A. LaMonica rescued Madison P. Boljesic from an attacking dog, Dearborn Heights, Michigan, September 25, 2010. Madison, 10, was on the sidewalk in a residential neighborhood when a 45-pound, adult male pit bull dog charged her without provocation. It took her to the ground and bit her repeatedly. Across the street, LaMonica, 75, retired merchandiser, was approaching the scene on foot when the attack took place. He immediately ran across the street toward Madison and the dog, yelling at the dog to distract it. When he had nearly reached them, the dog turned to LaMonica and charged him. LaMonica landed a hard kick against the dog's chest, but it recovered and charged him again, biting him forcefully on the right calf. When Madison's brother then arrived and threatened the dog, it released LaMonica and left the scene. Both Madison and LaMonica were treated at the hospital, their bite wounds requiring sutures. 83580-9479



ROGER RANDOLPH LANG

Corona, California

Robert Randolph Lang helped to rescue a woman from assault, Norco, California, April 4, 2009. A 31-year-old woman was alone inside the tanning salon she operated when a man entered and, threatening her with a knife, forced her to the floor in a back room. She screamed, attracting the attention of Lang, 47, tax preparer, who was in an office of an adjoining business. Lang ran into the salon and to its back room, where he saw the assault. He grasped

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the assailant, who then turned on him. The men struggled for control of the weapon, Lang sustaining multiple knife wounds. One of Lang's clients also responded from the office, and he joined in the struggle. He ended up on the floor, the assailant atop him, as he too fought for control of the knife. The men disarmed the assailant, who then broke away and fled the building. Lang's client pursued him through the parking lot, tackled him, and held him until police arrived and arrested him. The woman was not injured. Lang was taken to the hospital, where he was treated for an abrasion to his forehead and lacerations that required suturing. 83150-9429



HAROLD T. LEACH
Danville, California

Harold T. Leach helped to save Margarito Garcia from drowning, Pacific Grove, California, November 8, 2009. Garcia and another man were in a 15-foot aluminum boat off Point Pinos on Monterey Bay of the Pacific Ocean when the boat capsized in rough surf. They shouted for help, drawing the attention of Leach, 51, financial service company executive, and a friend, who were on a golf course on the shore in that area. Leach and his friend ran into the water and waded and swam toward the men, their course made difficult by high waves breaking among large rocks near shore and the coldness of the water. Garcia's companion reached an exposed rock and clung to it, but Garcia floated face down about 300 feet from shore. Leach and his friend reached him, positioned him on his back, and then with difficulty retraced their course to shore, pulling him. Lifeguards arrived and rescued Garcia's companion. Leach was fatigued and cold and had cuts to his legs from the rocks, but he recovered.

82781-9492



DANIEL W. LEMON

Roseville, Minnesota

Daniel W. Lemon saved Olivia E. Schuller from burning, Minneapolis, Minnesota, September 12, 2009. Olivia, 10, was inside a first-floor bedroom of her father's house when natural gas that had leaked into the structure ignited and exploded. The house was knocked off its foundation, and falling debris pinned Olivia to the floor. Flames erupted throughout the wreckage, including the room in which Olivia lay. Those responding from the neighborhood included Lemon, 35, store manager, who was visiting a friend. Hearing screams from the bedroom, he approached one of its windows, started to remove debris, and saw Olivia just inside the room. Despite flames in that room, Lemon entered through the window, freed Olivia, and pulled her to the window. A neighbor who had responded joined him there and helped in taking Olivia to safety. Just after Lemon cleared the room, flames grew quickly to engulf it. Olivia required hospitalization for injuries received in the explosion, and she recovered. 83097-9434



MATTHEW CHARLES LOGAN

Moscow, Idaho

Matthew Charles Logan helped to save Kerry A. Wagner from burning, Moscow, Idaho, June 27, 2010. Trapped by wreckage, Wagner, 51, was unconscious in the driver's seat of his pickup truck after a highway accident in which the truck collided head on with another pickup. The two vehicles came to a stop upright, parallel to each other, and only about five feet apart. Flames broke out at the front of the other pickup, the driver of which died in the accident. Motorists, including Logan, 29, store manager, stopped at the scene. After going between the vehicles and attempting to gain access to the cab of the other pickup, Logan entered Wagner's truck through the front passenger door. Despite flames by then issuing from the front of that vehicle, he positioned himself on the front seat, placed his feet against the ceiling, and

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pushed hard to move the seat, thereby freeing Wagner. Logan then pulled Wagner across the seat and stepped from the vehicle. Two other men who had stopped at the scene entered the space between the vehicles, where the heat was intense. They leaned into the pickup, grasped Wagner, and, with Logan, pulled him out of the truck and carried him to safety. Within minutes, flames engulfed both pickups. Although spared from burning, Wagner suffered multiple injuries in the collision, requiring hospitalization and surgery. He recovered. 83292-9471



WILLIAM E. LONGMORE IV

Adairsville, Georgia

William E. Longmore IV rescued Robert M. Jones from burning, Rome, Georgia, August 16, 2010. Jones, 72, remained in the driver's seat of his sport utility vehicle after an accident in which the vehicle left the roadway and overturned onto its passenger side. Conscious but dazed, he was unable to free himself from his safety belt as flames broke out at the front of the vehicle and began to spread inside. Longmore, 38, supervisor, and his wife were traveling on the highway and came upon the scene. Taking a fire extinguisher, Longmore ran to the car and fought the flames, emptying the extinguisher, but flames continued to burn and were spreading rapidly. Hearing Jones scream for help, Longmore realized that the vehicle was occupied. He approached the rear of the car and used the extinguisher to break out its hatch window. He partially entered but was forced to retreat by dense smoke. After his wife reached the car and broke windows out with a hammer, the smoke cleared somewhat, allowing Longmore to enter the vehicle fully. He advanced to Jones and, finding him restrained by his safety belt, pulled on Jones's seat to free him. Flames compromised the belt, and Jones fell from the seat. Longmore grasped him about the arms and dragged him to the rear of the vehicle. With help from his wife, Longmore pulled Jones out of the vehicle and away from it as flames grew to engulf and destroy it. Longmore suffered minor burns to his back but did not require medical treatment, and he recovered. Jones required hospitalization for treatment of serious burns and other injuries. 83475-9481



TRAVIS JAMES MAULDIN
Okeechobee, Florida

Travis James Mauldin helped to save a woman from drowning, Fort Pierce, Florida, August 17, 2010. At night, a 41-year-old woman jumped from a bridge into the Indian River and was swept away by a strong tidal current. Travis, 17, high school student, was fishing from a catwalk below the bridge with several friends when they heard the woman hit the water and then saw her being carried into the darkness. Removing his shirt, Travis and two male friends jumped from the catwalk into the river and swam about 350 feet to the woman, who was floating on her back at a point about 385 feet from the closer bank. They grasped the woman and together swam with difficulty against the current toward the bank. Reaching wadable water, they pulled the woman toward an accessible point on the bank, where emergency personnel had responded. Travis and the others removed the woman from the river. She was hospitalized for treatment of broken ribs and other injuries, and she recovered. Travis was tired after the rescue and sustained a laceration to his right ankle, and he too recovered. 83523-9482



TIMOTHY MCCARTHY
Overland Park, Kansas

Timothy McCarthy rescued Benjamin M. Denham from burning, Overland Park, Kansas, March 16, 2010. At night, the automobile in which Denham, 18, and two friends were traveling left the street and struck an electric power pole and then the corner of a house before coming to a stop upright in a yard. Flames erupted on the car. McCarthy, 22, a service technician who lived nearby, heard the crash and ran to the scene. Flames covered the back of the car and most of its interior, sparing only the driver's seat, where Denham remained, semiconscious. McCarthy reached through the broken window of the driver's door, grasped Denham, and pulled him out of the vehicle. The clothing on Denham's upper body was aflame, and McCarthy, aided by

another man who had responded, patted his clothing and rolled him on the ground to extinguish the flames. Denham required extensive hospitalization for treatment of severe burns. His friends did not survive the accident. McCarthy suffered burns to his right hand, for which he was treated at the hospital. He recovered. 83014-9428



MATTHEW JASON MCCUNE

Denver, Colorado

Matthew Jason McCune rescued Erin Lucero from assault, Denver, Colorado, October 13, 2010. At night, Lucero, 23, was inside a moving automobile when her boyfriend began to strike her. She screamed and, bloodied, fell from the vehicle to the pavement. McCune, 36, attorney, witnessed the incident from about 120 feet away. He ran to Lucero, after which her boyfriend drove off, and urged her to remain at the scene until police arrived. Instead, Lucero began to walk away. Wanting to ensure her safety, McCune followed her closely for about 775 feet, or to the point at which the boyfriend emerged from a nearby house and approached them. Lucero positioned herself behind McCune as the boyfriend, armed with a knife, charged McCune and stabbed him repeatedly. Lucero fled to safety as the two men struggled. They then broke apart, and the assailant fled but was shortly apprehended by police. Lucero and McCune were taken to the hospital. Lucero was not badly injured, but McCune was detained two days for treatment, including surgery, of multiple knife wounds. 83601-9490



RICKIE D. MCDOWELL, JR.

Lincoln Park, Michigan

Rickie D. McDowell, Jr., saved Michael L. Harris from drowning, Petoskey, Michigan, August 17, 2010. Harris, 58, was swimming in Little Traverse Bay of Lake Michigan off a beach at a state park when a very strong current kept him from returning to shore. After a friend swam to him but also became

caught in the current, the men swam with difficulty to a buoy located about 180 feet from shore and clung to it. McDowell, 19, college student, was in another party on the beach when he was alerted to the situation. He and a friend entered the water and swam out to the men. McDowell grasped Harris by an arm and attempted to swim toward shore, but they made no progress against the current. McDowell found that he could submerge and push off the lake floor. He did so repeatedly, pushing on Harris to propel him toward shore and using oncoming waves to provide momentum. In similar fashion, McDowell's friend aided Harris's friend. When the rescuers reached wadable water with Harris and his friend, they were joined by others from the beach in aiding them from the lake. Harris was tired but not injured, and McDowell swallowed water and was tired and weak after the rescue, but he recovered.

83522-9465



KEVIN MOSS

Southgate, Michigan

Kevin Moss saved Craig W. Noble from drowning, Petoskey, Michigan, August 17, 2010. Noble, 56, and a friend were swimming in Little Traverse Bay of Lake Michigan off a beach at a state park when a very strong current kept the friend from returning to shore. After Noble swam to him but also became caught in the current, the men swam with difficulty to a buoy located about 180 feet from shore and clung to it. Moss, 20, college student, was in another party on the beach when he was alerted to the situation. He and a friend entered the water and swam out to the men. Moss grasped Noble in a cross-chest carry and attempted to swim toward shore, but they made no progress against the current. Moss found that he could submerge and push off the lake floor. He did so repeatedly, pushing on Noble to propel him toward shore and using oncoming waves to provide momentum. In similar fashion, Moss's friend aided Noble's friend. When the rescuers reached wadable water with Noble and his friend, they were joined by others from the beach in aiding them from the lake. Noble swallowed water and was nearly exhausted, and Moss was tired and cold after the rescue. Both recovered.

83737-9466



MICHAEL L. NORIEGA

Manhattan Beach, California

Michael L. Noriega helped to save Lucille Meistrell from burning, Manhattan Beach, California, November 5, 2009. Meistrell, 92, was in her bedroom in her one-story house after fire broke out in that room late at night. Her caregiver discovered the fire and was able to move her from the room and into the hall. Noriega, 56, county manager, lived next door. Alerted to the fire, he entered the house through its front door, proceeded through smoke to the hall, and located the women. Noriega grasped Meistrell and with difficulty started to remove her. Needing air, he retreated to the front door, as did the caregiver. They shortly re-entered the house and returned to the hall. Grasping Meistrell, they maneuvered her through the hall, across the living room, and out through the front door as police and firefighters were arriving. Meistrell and the caregiver were taken to the hospital for treatment of smoke inhalation. Noriega inhaled smoke and was examined at the scene. He recovered. 82719-9422



JASON MITCHELL NORMAN

North Wilkesboro, North Carolina

Jason Mitchell Norman rescued Linda J. Call from burning, North Wilkesboro, North Carolina, October 26, 2009. Call, 61, was in a bed in the living room of her house after fire erupted in the back of the structure. Flames spread and grew to issue from the house, attracting the attention of Norman, 28, heating and cooling systems installer, who was driving in the neighborhood. Norman stopped at the scene and learned Call's location from her caregiver, who was outside the house. He kicked open the front door and stepped into the living room, into which flames had spread and where dense smoke limited visibility. Repelled by smoke, he exited the house but then pulled his coat over his head and re-entered. He moved forward on his knees, arms extended, and located the bed in which Call lay unconscious. He pushed the bed closer to the front door and then lifted Call from it and

took her outside. With flames spreading inside the structure, Norman joined a neighbor in removing Call's husband from a bedroom window at the side of the house. Call required extensive hospitalization for treatment of burns. Norman also received hospital treatment, for smoke inhalation, and he recovered. 82672-9421



SCOTT J. OAK
Tacoma, Washington

Scott J. Oak saved Taylor L. Tefft from burning, Pasco, Washington, October 5, 2009. Taylor, II, was the passenger in the front seat of an automobile that was involved in an accident on an interstate highway. The car immediately caught fire, as did the other vehicle, located about 10 feet away, that was involved in the collision. Severely injured and rendered unconscious, Taylor was trapped in the front seat by wreckage as flames issued from the undercarriage of the vehicle and spread to its back-seat area. Oak, 34, an off-duty police officer from another municipality, was one of the motorists who stopped at the scene. He approached the passenger side of the burning car, leaned through the window of its front door, and maneuvered Taylor to free her. He then pulled her through the window and carried her to the median. Flames grew quickly to engulf the car. Taylor was taken to the hospital, where she died two days later of her injuries. Oak also received hospital treatment, for smoke inhalation and burns to his arms. He recovered. 82618-9414



SEAN T. O'CONNELL
Mandeville, Louisiana

Sean T. O'Connell attempted to save Jeffrey W. Dickson from drowning, Pointe à la Hache, Louisiana, July 24, 2010. Dickson, 39, was the pilot of a seaplane that was landing on the Oak River when it overturned while decelerating. Inverted, the plane submerged to its pontoons in water about 12 feet

deep. Another man in the plane was able to exit, and he surfaced. O'Connell, 38, physician's assistant, was on a boat in the vicinity that happened upon the scene within a few minutes of the accident. On learning that Dickson was still inside the plane, O'Connell entered the river, swam to it, and submerged. Diving to the pilot's door, he extended his upper body into the plane but did not find Dickson. He surfaced for air and then made repeated dives to enter the plane to locate him. On a last attempt, he fully entered the plane, made his way toward its rear, and found Dickson. Grasping him by the foot, O'Connell returned to the door, exited the plane with Dickson, and surfaced. He and the other man took Dickson to the boat, where O'Connell attempted to resuscitate him. The men took Dickson to a marina several miles away, and he was then taken to the hospital. He could not be revived. O'Connell sustained scratches, from which he recovered. 83419-9459



JOSHUA P. S. PAIK-NICELY

Burnt Ranch, California

Joshua P. S. Paik-Nicely saved Kenny R. Dison from drowning, Salyer, California, March 12, 2010. After his car left the highway in heavy rain, rolled down an embankment, and entered a pool of water along the bank of the Trinity River, Dison, 30, escaped the vehicle. Badly injured, he could not swim back to the bank against an eddy in the pool. Another motorist, Paik-Nicely, 29, general contractor, witnessed the accident and stopped at the scene. He sent for help and then from the top of the embankment saw Dison in the river treading water at a point about 25 feet from the bank. Paik-Nicely descended to the riverbank and, shedding only his jacket, entered the water, despite its 45-degree temperature. He swam through the eddy to Dison and established a hold around his shoulders. Paik-Nicely started to swim back to the bank with Dison, who outweighed him, but made no progress against the eddy's current. Deciding to swim with the current, Paik-Nicely took Dison to a rock at the edge of the pool. He removed Dison partially from the water, and then another man who had arrived helped in fully removing him. Dison required hospitalization for treatment of a disabling injury. 83044-9435



CONNELLY PHELPS PARKER, JR.

North Myrtle Beach, South Carolina

Connelly Phelps Parker, Jr., helped to save Richard B. Bennett from drowning, North Myrtle Beach, South Carolina, August 14, 2010. Bennett, 59, was attempting to swim across a channel in Hog Inlet when he was swept by a strong tidal current out into the Atlantic Ocean. His friends alerted Parker, 52, builder's superintendent, who was nearby, having been fishing from his 14-foot, fiberglass skiff in inland waters. Although Parker was not a strong swimmer and his boat was inadequate for use in the surf at the mouth of the inlet, Parker took it through the inlet to Bennett, who by then was floating unconscious in the breakers. As waves swamped his boat, Parker reached over the side for Bennett, who outweighed him, but he could not pull Bennett aboard. The boat capsized. Parker managed to free its anchor, and he held to the overturned boat with one arm as he supported Bennett with the other. A woman on a personal watercraft came upon them, but as she was attempting to aid them, the motor of her craft was fouled by a line and was left without power. She held to Bennett on the watercraft as it drifted away, its course taking them toward shore. Others responded from the beach and removed Bennett to safety; likewise, Parker was returned to shore by others. Bennett, exhausted, was taken to the hospital for observation, and he recovered. Parker also was exhausted, and too recovered. 83442-9460



JOHN DAVID PEARCE

Fort Erie, Ontario

John David Pearce saved Mary C. Barnes from drowning, Fort Erie, Ontario, June 15, 2008. Barnes, 57, was fishing from the bank of the Niagara River when she fell into the water and was swept downstream by the very swift current. Pearce, 52, stationary engineer, was in his home near the scene when he became aware of the situation. Knowing the strength of the current, Pearce got into his vehicle and drove about 1,000 feet downstream to a point

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at which he thought he might intercept her. Parking, he saw Barnes in that vicinity, at a point about 180 feet from the bank. Pearce went to the bank, removed his shoes, and waded and swam out to Barnes. Telling her to roll onto her back, Pearce grasped Barnes around the chin with one arm and with the other began to swim back to the bank, Barnes in tow. The current carried them about 400 feet farther downstream as Pearce swam. Nearing the bank, he called out for help, and a man entered the river and aided them to safety. Barnes was treated at the hospital for minor injury, and she recovered.

81388-9423



ALLYSON POWELL

North Dighton, Massachusetts

Allyson Powell helped to save Michael A. Canty from burning, Swansea, Massachusetts, July 21, 2010. Canty, 23, was unconscious in the driver's seat of his sport utility vehicle after it left the highway at night, struck a tree, and caught fire at its front end. Alerted to the accident, Powell, 31, state trooper, responded to the scene. Learning that the vehicle was occupied, she tried to open the doors but was unsuccessful. She broke out the window of the rear passenger-side door, partially entered the smoke-filled vehicle, and attempted to cut Canty's safety belt, again without success. After withdrawing for air, she gained entry through the front passenger-side door. Despite flames that were beginning to enter the vehicle beneath the dashboard, she climbed fully inside, lifted Canty enough to access the latch to his safety belt, and released the belt. When she then pulled on Canty, she found that he was trapped by wreckage. She asked for help from two men who had also responded to the scene: One of the men leaned through the broken-out window, and the other leaned through the opened front door. The three rescuers grasped Canty and pulled on him repeatedly, until he was free. They dragged him from the vehicle and took him to safety as flames grew to fill and engulf the car, destroying it. Canty was hospitalized for treatment of his injuries, and Powell also required hospital treatment, for smoke inhalation. She recovered.

83369-9475



BOBBY A. QUALLS, JR.

Linden, Tennessee

Bobby A. Qualls, Jr., died attempting to save Kylie F. Qualls from drowning, Linden, Tennessee, May 2, 2010. Kylie, 15; her brother; and their father, Qualls, 44, maintenance worker, were inside their home, which was on the bank of a creek, when quickly rising water from heavy rains caused the creek to overflow its banks. Qualls took his son to safety on the highway fronting the property and then turned back into the floodwaters for Kylie, who was holding to a tree about 100 feet away. He struggled against an extremely swift current in the rising waters, stopping to hold to a tree. After several minutes, Kylie was swept downstream, as was Qualls. Their bodies were recovered the following day. 83148-9448



RANDELL RANSON

Heber City, Utah

Randell Ranson attempted to save Thanish Kalis from burning, Salt Lake City, Utah, July 16, 2010. While helping to secure a helicopter to a flatbed trailer on the tarmac of an airport, Kalis, 46, was struck by the helicopter during its maneuvering. He fell to the pavement, the helicopter crashing next to the trailer and leaking fuel. Ranson, 39, aircraft mechanic, was at a hangar nearby and witnessed the accident. He immediately ran to Kalis, en route seeing the puddling fuel. Ranson removed a piece of wreckage from Kalis and then grasped him by the arms to move him. The fuel ignited explosively, throwing Ranson 10 feet back and setting fire to the helicopter wreckage. Others responding with fire extinguishers fought the flames and removed Kalis. He died at the scene. Ranson was hospitalized overnight for treatment of burns, up to second-degree, to his legs, left forearm, and face. 83360-9447



TROY ALLEN REINERT

Salina, Kansas

Troy Allen Reinert helped to save Tyler L. B. Sunderlin from burning, Salina, Kansas, February 20, 2010. Sunderlin, 18, was the passenger of a car that collided with a pickup truck and left the roadway. It came to rest upright in a pasture, and flames broke out in its front end. Sunderlin, rendered unconscious, was trapped in the front-seat area of the wreckage. Reinert, 37, business operator, drove upon the scene, stopped, and joined two men at the wreckage who were attempting to free Sunderlin through the driver's side of the car. Reinert leaned through the window of the passenger door and worked to free Sunderlin as flames grew and spread both toward the passenger side and inside the vehicle, to the dash. After the men freed Sunderlin, the two other men pulled him from the car and then, joined by Reinert, carried him to safety. Flames grew quickly to engulf and destroy the vehicle. Sunderlin was hospitalized for treatment of his injuries, requiring surgery, but he was not burned. 82975-9427



TIMOTHY LEE ROSTAR

Alanson, Michigan

Timothy Lee Rostar rescued Robert G. Wiley from an attacking bull, Alanson, Michigan, April 18, 2009. Wiley, 65, was moving his 1,800-pound bull through a passageway of his barn when it turned on him, took him to the floor, and pinned him by the chest against the frame of a passageway door. He screamed for help. A neighbor who had come to visit, Rostar, 46, business operator, was elsewhere in the barn. He responded to the other side of the door, opened it, and saw the attack. Rostar entered the passageway and approached the bull. He grasped it by the ears and pulled, but to no effect. Rostar then picked up a spade and struck the bull hard on its skull with a

point of the blade. The bull released Wiley, jumped over him, and left the passageway and then the barn. Rostar secured the barn against the bull's re-entry and then left to alert help. Wiley required hospitalization for treatment of significant injuries, including broken bones. 83937-9470



ROBERT T. SCHMIDT
Eden Prairie, Minnesota

Robert T. Schmidt helped to save Robert Fiske from burning, Eden Prairie, Minnesota, October 5, 2009. Fiske, 66, was the lone occupant of a twin-engine airplane that lost power while in flight. The plane crash-landed in a wooded ravine, trapping Fiske inside, and flames broke out at the right side of the fuselage, near the wing. Schmidt, 64, real estate developer, was in his nearby home and heard the crash. He ran to the scene and, seeing Fiske inside the plane, mounted the left wing. Schmidt tried to gain access to the smoke-filled cabin by attempting to open its canopy and breaking out a window, but he was not successful. Another man who responded to the scene joined Schmidt on the wing, and he too attempted to break into the cabin. The two men then obtained a metal bar from the plane's nearby storage compartment and with it broke through the window. They then reached inside the plane and pulled Fiske out onto the wing. Flames had grown to reach into the trees, and they breached the cabin from its right side. Schmidt and the other man lowered Fiske to the ground and, with the help of others who were responding, carried him from the ravine to safety. Fiske was hospitalized for treatment of injuries sustained in the crash and for smoke inhalation. He recovered. Schmidt sustained lacerations to his hands, and he too recovered. 82626-9418



JAMES A. SHORT, JR.

Andover, Massachusetts

James A. Short, Jr., rescued David J. Johnston from burning, Cape Coral, Florida, March 17, 2010. Johnston, 63, who was an invalid, was in the living room of his duplex apartment when fire erupted at the oxygen equipment he used. He yelled for help. Short, 52, plumber, who lived in the adjacent apartment, was alerted to the fire. He responded to the front door of Johnston's apartment, entered, and, despite intense heat and dense smoke that limited visibility, searched the apartment for him. Seeing Johnston lying on the floor near a burning recliner in the living room, Short approached him and pulled him to his feet and to the unit's back door. He then opened the door and dragged Johnston outside, moments before an explosive rush of flames engulfed the room. Johnston was hospitalized with first- and second-degree burns to his face, hands, and arms. 83023-9449



BRANDON M. SMITH

Okeechobee, Florida

Brandon M. Smith helped to save a woman from drowning, Fort Pierce, Florida, August 17, 2010. At night, a 41-year-old woman jumped from a bridge into the Indian River and was swept away by a strong tidal current. Brandon, 16, high school student, was fishing from a catwalk below the bridge with several friends when they heard the woman hit the water and then saw her being carried into the darkness. They jumped from the catwalk into the river and swam about 350 feet to the woman, who was floating on her back at a point about 385 feet from the closer bank. They grasped the woman and together swam with difficulty against the current toward the bank. Reaching wadable water, they pulled the woman toward an accessible point on the bank, where emergency personnel had responded. Brandon and the others

removed the woman from the river. She was hospitalized for treatment of broken ribs and other injuries, and she recovered. Brandon was tired after the rescue and sustained lacerations to his feet, and he too recovered.

83525-9484



FREDERICK T. SMITH

Daleville, Virginia

Frederick T. Smith rescued Paul D. Knight from burning, Daleville, Virginia, April 7, 2010. Knight, 46, collapsed in the hall on the second floor of his two-story house while fighting a fire that had broken out in a laundry room off the hall. A neighbor, Smith, 53, welder, was alerted to the fire and responded. He entered the house through its front door and ran up the nearby upstairs. Dense smoke in the hall extended down to the floor, precluding visibility, and rapidly spreading flames on the second floor had entered the hall and were advancing. Smith called to Knight and, hearing him cough, crawled through the hall about five feet from the stairs to him. As Knight was inert, Smith grabbed him by the belt and collar, dragged him to the top of the stairs, and then, lifting him, hauled him down to the first floor and outside to safety. Knight was hospitalized for treatment of smoke inhalation and burns. Smith also sought medical attention for smoke inhalation. 82879-9444



NATHAN N. SMITH

Citrus Heights, California

Nathan N. Smith died attempting to save Noel B. Smith from drowning, McArthur, California, December 19, 2009. Brothers Noel, 39, and Nathan, 32, electrician, were with another brother on the bank of an ice-covered arm of Big Lake. When Noel's dog broke through ice at a point about 65 feet from the bank and fell into water about 10 feet deep, Noel went after the dog, but he too broke through the ice. Nathan obtained a metal fence post from nearby and crawled across the ice toward Noel, the other brother following

him. Nathan extended the post to Noel, and he grasped it and pulled. To keep Nathan from being pulled forward, the other brother held him by his ankles. The ice beneath Nathan and the other brother gave way, and they too fell into the water. With difficulty, the other brother pulled himself onto solid ice, but by then, Noel and Nathan had submerged. Rescue crews arrived shortly and removed them from the water. They were taken to the hospital but could not be revived. 82810-9457



DARRYL F. STARNES

Mechanicsville, Virginia

Darryl F. Starnes helped to rescue Kelley B. Peele from burning, Mechanicsville, Virginia, February 15, 2011. Peele, 48, remained in the driver's seat of her sport utility vehicle after an accident in which the vehicle left the roadway, struck a tree, and caught fire at its front end. She was conscious but badly injured and trapped by wreckage. Starnes, 70, retired insurance examiner, approached the scene in his vehicle and stopped. He went to the burning vehicle and tried to open its driver's door but found that it was jammed. He then extended his upper body through the window of that door and worked to release Peele's safety belt. Another motorist stopped at the scene and joined in the rescue effort. He entered the vehicle head first through the window of the front passenger door and, despite flames by then entering the passenger compartment, worked with Starnes to free Peele, whose legs were trapped. Starnes then began to pull Peele through the window of the driver's door as the other man withdrew from the vehicle. The men took Peele to safety as flames grew quickly to engulf the interior of the vehicle. Peele sustained minor burns to her hands and required hospitalization for treatment of her other injuries. 83862-9494



LIVIU TALOS

Detroit, Michigan

Liviu Talos saved Tahani Shohatee from burning, Detroit, Michigan, July 15, 2010. Tahani, 9, was in her bedroom, on the first floor of her family's house, after fire broke out in the living room at night and filled the floor with dense smoke. Talos, 45, construction worker, was alerted to the fire and responded to the scene from his house across the street. Learning the location of Tahani's bedroom, Talos mounted a garbage can beneath the bedroom window and broke it out. He attempted entry twice but was forced back by intense heat and dense smoke each time. After returning to his home for a breathing mask that he used in his work, Talos again climbed to the window. He entered the bedroom and, with the aid of the mask, crawled across the room in search of Tahani. Not finding her, he returned toward the window, en route feeling Tahani's leg: She lay on the floor about six feet from the window. Talos picked her up, took her to the window, and handed her outside to others. Talos then dived through the window to the ground, injuring his shoulder. Tahani was taken to the hospital, where she died the next day. Talos inhaled smoke and required surgical repair of his shoulder. 83346-9452



CHRISTIAN TIMMINS

Covington, Louisiana

Christian Timmins helped to save Rhonda W. Knickles from drowning, Mandeville, Louisiana, April 25, 2010. Knickles, 49, fell into Lake Pontchartrain after she was involved in an automobile accident on the Lake Pontchartrain Causeway at a point about six miles from the closer shore. Timmins, 31, pilot, was driving on the causeway when he witnessed the accident and saw her fall. He flagged down other motorists for help, and those responding included a causeway police officer, who placed a ladder over the side of the bridge. Another motorist then donned the officer's life vest, descended the ladder, and swam to Knickles, who was floating face down in

the 14-foot-deep water at a point about 60 feet from the bridge. He turned her over, finding her unconscious, and supported her. Since a swift current in the lake was carrying them farther from the bridge, Timmins also donned a life vest and entered the water from the bridge. He swam to a life ring that had been thrown by the officer and with difficulty in the 3.5-foot waves took it to the first rescuer. Together the men placed Knickles on the ring and held to it as they were carried farther away. Other causeway police officers arrived, and one of them entered the water with a flotation device and aided Knickles and her rescuers back to the causeway, where they were lifted to safety. Knickles was taken to the hospital but died of drowning the following day. Timmins was nearly exhausted after the rescue, but he recovered.

83211-9456



CARLOS S. VALLES

Sparks, Nevada

Carlos S. Valles rescued a woman from burning, Reno, Nevada, April 17, 2010. A 54-year-old woman was in her apartment, which was on the first floor of a two-story building, after fire broke out in one of the unit's bedrooms at night. The apartment filled with dense smoke, and flames breached the bedroom window and issued to the second floor. First responders included Valles, 32, police officer, who was informed by neighbors that the woman remained inside the unit. Valles entered the apartment through its open front door and despite the dense smoke, which severely limited visibility, crawled about 20 feet, or to where he found the woman lying on the floor near the burning bedroom. He stood and attempted to carry her, but the smoke forced him back to the floor. Grasping the woman by a wrist, Valles dragged her to the front door and then outside to safety. The woman required hospital treatment for her injuries, including burns. 83104-9431



RYAN P. VAN WAVE

Saint Charles, Missouri

Ryan P. Van Wave rescued Joshua A. Perkins from burning, O'Fallon, Missouri, March 8, 2010. Perkins, 23, was the driver of an automobile that, at night, left the roadway, struck a traffic signal box, and came to rest on its passenger side. Flames broke out at the front end of the vehicle and began to spread inside. On patrol nearby, Van Wave, 27, police officer, responded to the scene. Learning that the vehicle was occupied, he opened its rear hatch door, entered partially, and extended an arm to Perkins, who was sitting on the passenger side of the vehicle, his back against the roof. When Perkins did not respond, Van Wave fully entered the car and moved toward him. He grasped Perkins, hugged him to himself, and then backed toward the hatch door, pulling Perkins. They exited to safety as flames spread inside the vehicle. Aided by others, Van Wave carried Perkins farther from the car. Perkins, who sustained minor burns to his face, was hospitalized for injuries sustained in the crash. 83029-9420



FRANK SHANE WARD

Amarillo, Texas

Frank Shane Ward rescued Judy W. Jett, Sylvia L. Highers, and Barbara J. Fail from burning, Hydro, Oklahoma, July 11, 2010. Jett, 61; Sylvia, 12; and Fail, 48, were occupants of a pickup truck that, in an interstate highway accident, left the roadway and, catching fire, rolled down an embankment and came to rest upside down. Flames spread alongside the passenger side of the vehicle and issued from its exposed underside, and they entered the passenger compartment. Jett, who had been driving, and Fail removed their safety belts but with Sylvia were trapped in the wreckage. Also traveling on the highway, Ward, 35, business operator, witnessed the accident. He immediately drove off the roadway, left his vehicle, and ran down to the burning pickup. Seeing that Jett had extended an arm through the compressed

window of the driver's door, Ward reached into the truck, grasped her, and then pulled her from the vehicle. Despite growing flames, Ward reached into the vehicle again, grasped Sylvia by the arms, and pulled her out. Fail, who had been in the passenger seat, reached the window, and Ward extended his arms inside a third time and grasped her. Seconds after pulling her out of the pickup, flames grew quickly to engulf it. Jett, Sylvia, and Fail all required hospitalization for treatment of their burns, up to third-degree, and other injuries. 83427-9485



GRADY TERRY WARHURST

Upper Marlboro, Maryland

Grady Terry Warhurst helped to save Kevin L. Gladhill, Michael G. Krall, and Russell U. Neff III from drowning, Lusby, Maryland, February 10, 2011. Gladhill, 32; Krall, 35; and Neff, 55, were fishing from a 21-foot boat in Chesapeake Bay, in the vicinity of turbulence created by the discharge of water from submerged conduits of a power plant nearby on the bank. Opposing winds amplified the turbulence, creating standing waves five feet high. A wave swamped the boat, and another capsized it, sending the men into the 34-degree water. They secured a hold of the boat, only the bow of which was exposed. Warhurst, 64, landfill supervisor, and a friend were fishing the same waters from the friend's 21-foot boat nearby and witnessed the accident. Radioing for help, the friend immediately took his boat into the turbulent water and approached a point alongside the partially submerged one. Warhurst and his friend, who left the boat's controls, grasped the men one at a time and hauled them with difficulty into the stern of that boat. They then took the men to the safety of a harbor, from which they were transferred to the hospital for treatment of hypothermia. They recovered. 83903-9489



LAUREN WINSTEAD

Collierville, Tennessee

Lauren Winstead helped to save Eddie L. Torres from drowning, Destin, Florida, July 5, 2009. When Torres, 53, left his party's boat to swim in Choctawhatchee Bay at a point about two miles from shore, a strong ebb current flowing into the Gulf of Mexico pulled him away from the boat. A friend swam to him and supported him while shouting for help; unbeknownst to the men, their party's boat was disabled. Lauren, 12, student, also had entered the water to swim and was drifting away. She was able to return against the current toward the boat, from which her mother threw boat bumpers into the water for use as flotation devices. Retrieving one of the bumpers, Lauren turned and swam a considerable distance to Torres and his friend. As the friend then left to return to the boat, Lauren helped Torres stay afloat with use of the bumper. The distance between them and their boat increasing, they attempted to swim ashore but made little progress. The boat's operator had called the Coast Guard, which sent a rescue boat to the scene. Torres, Lauren, and the friend were taken aboard that boat and returned to safety.

82425-9416



Those easing Roumianka Connelly into a rescue boat include Christine A. Marty, front center, who pulled the woman from her stranded car during a flash flood in Pittsburgh and helped to secure her until the boat arrived. Marty was an awardee of the Carnegie Medal in 2012. Photo, by Chris Langer, is provided courtesy of Trib Total Media, Pittsburgh.



Awakened at night, Ryan B. Phillips of Cincinnati, Ohio, raced into his neighbor's burning house and rescued a 3-year-old boy from a second-floor bedroom. Phillips was awarded the Carnegie Medal in 2012 for his rescue. Photo, by Carrie Cochran, is courtesy of The Cincinnati Enquirer.

HEROIC ACTS RECOGNIZED DURING 2012

The following persons were cited by the Carnegie Hero Fund Commission in 2012 for having performed outstanding acts of heroism. In each case, a Carnegie Medal and a financial grant were awarded.



KUJTIME AJRO

Cedar Rapids, Iowa

Kujtime Ajro helped to save a boy from drowning, Mount Vernon, Iowa, June 19, 2011. A 9-year-old boy and his younger brother were wading in the Cedar River close to the bank when they lost their footing and were pulled farther out and downstream by a strong current. A friend of the boys' family, Ajro, 29, homemaker, was in their party at the scene. She immediately entered the water and swam out to the boys, who were then struggling against a fisherman who also swam out in a rescue attempt. Ajro took the older boy from the fisherman and, supporting him, attempted to return him to the bank, but that boy struggled against her as they were pulled farther downstream. Meanwhile, a woman from another party at the scene responded to the bank. Seeing that Ajro was having difficulty with the older boy, she entered the river and swam to them. Taking the boy from Ajro, she swam him to the bank, and then, with a makeshift flotation device, she returned to Ajro and took her to safety. Ajro, who had swallowed water and

was nearly exhausted, required hospital treatment for having nearly drowned, and she recovered. The younger boy was rescued by a man from another party at the scene, but the fisherman submerged and drowned.

84215-9567



KALI JO ARNZEN

Sauk Centre, Minnesota

Kali Jo Arnzen saved Travis J. Ritter from drowning, Sauk Centre, Minnesota, December 29, 2011. While riding in his all-terrain vehicle, Ritter, 30, broke through an area of thin ice on Fairy Lake at a point about 700 feet from the bank. The vehicle sank, and Ritter was unable to climb from the open water. About 400 feet away, Kali, 17, high school student, was ice skating in the area between Ritter and the bank when she heard the ice break. Seeing Ritter in the open water, she immediately skated toward him, quickly, assuming a seated position as she approached. From about 10 feet away, Kali slid her skates to Ritter to use as ice picks, but he could not pull himself onto solid ice. Kali then removed her jacket and extended a sleeve to Ritter, but as they pulled on the jacket Kali was drawn closer to the open water. Ritter returned a skate to Kali, and she used it to anchor herself to the ice as she resumed pulling on the jacket. Thus aided, Ritter hoisted himself onto solid ice. He and Kali regained their footing and walked to the bank, where first responders were arriving. Ritter was taken to the hospital but other than bruising was uninjured. 84636-9552



KYLE D. AUSTIN

Mattawana, Pennsylvania

Kyle D. Austin died attempting to save Dakota A. Cutshall from drowning, McVeytown, Pennsylvania, July 21, 2011. Dakota, 13, was swimming in the Juniata River with three friends when he struggled to stay afloat in the deeper water of a hole in the river floor between the bank of the river and

the bank of an island at the scene. One of his friends, Kyle, 13, student, was standing in wadable water at the edge of the hole. He immediately jumped into the deeper water and swam across the hole to Dakota. A struggle between the boys ensued, during which they submerged and did not resurface. Firefighters responded shortly and recovered the boys from the river. Resuscitation efforts were attempted, but they could not be revived, as they had drowned. 84351-9524



NICOLE M. AUTILIO

Saugus, Massachusetts

Nicole M. Autilio helped to save Mary L. Ciaramitaro from drowning, Revere, Massachusetts, October 13, 2010. Ciaramitaro, 58, was the passenger in an automobile that in a highway accident left the roadway, went down a rocky embankment, and entered Diamond Creek. The vehicle began to submerge as it was carried away by a tidal current. Other motorists, including Autilio, 36, stopped at the scene. Shouting to Ciaramitaro to get out of the car, she ran down the embankment but lost her footing and fell, striking her face on rocks. Despite that, and her limited swimming ability, Autilio entered the water and swam about 150 feet toward the car. Ciaramitaro, meanwhile, crawled out of the vehicle, which then submerged, and struggled to stay afloat in the cold, murky water. Another motorist entered the creek and swam out, and he reached Ciaramitaro just after Autilio. Autilio and the other motorist held Ciaramitaro by her hands and swam against the tidal current toward the bank. As they proceeded, Autilio brushed against a submerged sandbar, and the three were able to stand atop it to await help. Responding firefighters took Ciaramitaro to the bank and then returned for Autilio and the other motorist. Divers located the car and recovered the body of the driver. Ciaramitaro, Autilio, and the other motorist all required hospitalization for treatment of ill effects sustained in the accident and rescue.

83578-9521



AUSTIN WOODS BALL

River Heights, Utah

Austin Woods Ball attempted to save a girl from drowning, Torrey, Utah, July 15, 2011. A 12-year-old girl was wading in the Fremont River below a 15-foot-high waterfall when she was drawn by a strong current into the turbulent water of the pool at the base of the waterfall. She struggled to stay afloat. In another party at the scene, Ball, 33, structural engineer, was in the shallow water of a larger pool just downstream. Alerted to the girl's plight, he left the water, picked up a tree branch nearby, and went to the rocky edge of the smaller pool. As the branch was not long enough to reach the girl, Ball jumped into the nine-foot-deep water and advanced toward her. Submerging repeatedly, the girl was unable to grasp the branch. Ball discarded it and struggled to reach the girl, but both were overcome and submerged. About a minute later they were swept from the pool into shallow water, from which they were recovered, unconscious, by others. They were revived at the scene and then taken to the hospital. Ball was detained overnight for treatment of having nearly drowned, and he recovered.

84433-9533



MAKEDA S. BARKLEY

Lisbon, Iowa

Makeda S. Barkley helped to save a boy, and saved Kujtime Ajro, from drowning, Mount Vernon, Iowa, June 19, 2011. A 9-year-old boy and his younger brother were wading in the Cedar River close to the bank when they lost their footing and were pulled farther out and downstream by a strong current. A man who had been fishing at the scene and Ajro, 29, who was a family friend in the boys' party, swam out to them in rescue attempts, but the boys struggled against them. Ajro took hold of the older boy and attempted to return him to the bank, but the boy continued to struggle against her as they were pulled downstream. Meanwhile,

Makeda, 16, high school student, in another party at the scene, responded to the river. Seeing that Ajro was having difficulty with the older boy, she entered the water and swam to them. Makeda took the boy from Ajro and swam him to the bank, and then, with a makeshift flotation device, she returned to Ajro and took her to safety. Ajro, who had swallowed water and was exhausted, required hospital treatment for having nearly drowned, and she recovered. The younger boy was rescued by a man from another party at the scene, but the fisherman submerged and drowned.

84216-9569



RICHARD HENRY BECKER

Mendocino, California

Richard Henry Becker saved Zayre S. Johnson from drowning, Mendocino, California, January 18, 2011. Zayre, 17, entered Mendocino Bay of the Pacific Ocean to surf, but his board broke in two in the rough seas, and he abandoned it. Rather than attempt to return to shore against a strong outward current, he turned toward a cove at the far end of the bay. Becker, 31, teacher, had also gone to the bay to surf but decided against it because of the strong winds and 14-foot waves. From atop the headlands overlooking the bay, he watched Zayre and concluded that he was at risk of being swept away, into the treacherous area of waves breaking against the rocky cliffs near the cove. After donning a wet suit and telling others at the scene to call for help, Becker entered the bay with his surfboard and paddled out toward Zayre, but the glare of the setting sun prevented him from spotting Zayre. Firefighters arrived and from atop a cliff directed Becker toward him. Becker reached Zayre after paddling about 2,000 feet out from shore. He directed Zayre to lie atop him on the surfboard and then, with Zayre kicking, Becker paddled toward the cove. Their progress was slow. Negotiating the breakers at the cove, they reached shore, Becker nearly exhausted. Zayre was taken to the hospital, where he was treated for hypothermia. Becker suffered sore muscles for a day and recovered. 83840-9547

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RODNEY BONE

Grady, New Mexico

Rodney Bone helped to save Mortarice D. Collier and David A. Wallace from burning, San Jon, New Mexico, July 31, 2011. Collier, 47, was trapped in the cab of a tractor-trailer after the vehicle struck the rear of another tractor-trailer on a ramp of an interstate highway. Flames broke out on the passenger side of Collier's tractor and spread into the cab and its sleeper berth, where Wallace, 52, had been sleeping. Nearby, Bone, 40, an officer with the state's motor transportation police, was alerted to the accident, and he immediately responded. Seeing Collier pounding on the window of the driver's door, which was jammed shut, Bone climbed onto the wreckage of the fuel tank housing and broke out the window. He reached into the cab, grasped Collier, and started to pull him through the window to safety, Collier then climbing down to the pavement. Alerted that Wallace remained in the cab, Bone returned to the window and saw that Wallace was lying unconscious on the floor, between the seats. Bone attempted without success to reach him as flames grew in the cab and sleeper; likewise, his efforts at opening the door were not successful. A state police officer arrived about then. He entered the cab head first through the window, grasped Wallace, and, as Bone held to his legs, worked to free him. After the officer then maneuvered from the cab, pulling Wallace, Bone grasped Wallace, whose clothing was burning, and took him to the pavement. Flames shortly engulfed the cab and spread to the trailers of both vehicles, destroying them. Wallace was hospitalized for treatment of significant injuries, including burns to his arms and legs. 84388-9544



JAMES LEE SMITH BOWEN

Lawrence, Kansas

James Lee Smith Bowen saved Alice J. Ahlers from drowning, Ames, Iowa, August 11, 2010. Ahlers, 68, remained in the driver's seat of her car after it was swept off a submerged roadway by the current of floodwaters from the South Skunk River. The vehicle began to submerge in water about five feet deep in a flooded field, at a point about 100 feet from the roadway. Bowen, 32, graduate assistant, drove upon the scene and witnessed the accident. He entered the floodwaters and waded and swam to the vehicle as it started to sink. With difficulty, Bowen opened the driver's door. He then reached inside, grasped Ahlers, and pulled her from the vehicle as it settled. Holding her, he waded across the current toward a roadway, having to swim across a flooded ditch before reaching it. Bowen and Ahlers, who was uninjured, then waded to safety. Bowen suffered minor scratches to his legs but fully recovered. 83496-9509



KEVIN PATRICK BOYLE

Saint Joseph, Michigan

Kevin Patrick Boyle saved Norman K. Ketchman from burning, Stevensville, Michigan, December 18, 2010. Ketchman, 77, lay on the floor of the family room on the lower level of his split-entry house after fire broke out in an adjacent bedroom. Flames spread into the family room, and it filled with dense smoke. On duty, Boyle, 39, police officer, responded to the scene. He and other officers accessed the house through its front door, but flames blocked their course to the lower level. They went to the rear of the structure and broke out a sliding glass door that opened to the family room. With virtually no visibility, Boyle crawled into the burning room and found Ketchman. Grasping him by the arm, he dragged Ketchman to the sliding

glass door and outside to safety. Ketchman was then transported to the hospital. Flames grew to engulf the lower level and spread to the rest of the structure. 83650-9497



JOHN M. BYRD
Round O, South Carolina

John M. Byrd helped to rescue Ronald B. Thompkins from burning, Round O, South Carolina, September 17, 2011. Semiconscious, Thompkins, 35, lay inside his burning car after a nighttime accident in which the vehicle left the highway, overturned onto its driver's side, and caught fire at its front end. Byrd, 49, pastor, responded to the scene after being alerted to the accident. Approaching the vehicle and seeing Thompkins inside, Byrd reached through the broken-out window of the passenger door. Able to make contact with Thompkins but not to remove him that way, Byrd retreated and, finding a small ball bat, struck the glass of the vehicle's sunroof repeatedly, breaking it. Flames by then had entered the passenger compartment of the vehicle, at Thompkins's feet. Byrd reached inside the car, grasped Thompkins by the arms, and pulled him from the flames and partially through the sunroof opening, headfirst. He called for help. A passing motorist who had stopped at the scene approached, grasped Thompkins, who was aflame, and with Byrd pulled him the rest of the way from the vehicle. They dragged him to safety as flames grew to engulf the car, destroying it. Thompkins was hospitalized for treatment of burns and other injuries, and Byrd was treated at the scene for burns to his hands, from which he recovered. 84378-9572



CONNOR M. BYSTROM

Holmes Beach, Florida

Connor M. Bystrom rescued Charles J. Wickersham from a shark attack, Anna Maria, Florida, September 24, 2011. Wickersham, 21, was spear fishing in the Gulf of Mexico with friends, including Bystrom, 22, surgical veterinarian technician. Their boat was anchored in water about 38 feet deep at a point about six miles from shore. Wickersham was in the water, at the surface, about 25 feet from the boat when a shark bit him deeply on his left thigh; the shark was thought to be a nine-foot-long bull shark. Wickersham struck it on the nose with both fists, and it released him. Bleeding profusely, he shouted to the others that he had been attacked by a shark. Bystrom jumped into the water and swam to him. He grabbed Wickersham by an arm and, swimming, towed him to the boat, where the other men in the party pulled him aboard. Bystrom climbed aboard and with the others tended to Wickersham as they sped to a marina. Airlifted to the hospital, where he was detained six days, Wickersham required surgery, including significant suturing, to close his wound. He recovered in three months. 84435-9531



RICKY D. CLINTON

Mountain Pine, Arkansas

Ricky D. Clinton died attempting to save Tyler J. French from burning, Mountain Pine, Arkansas, September 24, 2011. Tyler, 13, was spending the night at a friend's house when the house caught fire. Clinton, 49, who was the friend's father, discovered the fire and alerted the house's occupants. They made their way to the back door to exit, but Tyler turned back into the house to retrieve an item. He was then heard screaming for help. Clinton re-entered the house. Flames grew, destroying the structure. Firefighters located the bodies of Clinton and Tyler inside; both had died of smoke inhalation. 84420-9570



PAUL CORCORAN
North Andover, Massachusetts

Paul Corcoran helped to save Mary L. Ciaramitaro from drowning, Revere, Massachusetts, October 13, 2010. Ciaramitaro, 58, was the passenger in an automobile that in a highway accident left the roadway, went down a rocky embankment, and entered Diamond Creek. The vehicle began to submerge as it was carried away by a tidal current. Ciaramitaro crawled from the car, which then submerged, and struggled to stay afloat in the cold, murky water. Other motorists, including Corcoran, 59, marketing director, had stopped at the scene. He entered the creek and swam about 150 feet out to Ciaramitaro, reaching her just after another motorist who had swum out. Corcoran and the other motorist held Ciaramitaro by her hands and swam against the tidal current toward the bank. As they proceeded, they came upon a submerged sandbar and were able to stand atop it to await help. Responding firefighters took Ciaramitaro to the bank and then returned for Corcoran and the other motorist. Divers located the car and recovered the body of the driver. Ciaramitaro, Corcoran, and the other motorist all required hospitalization for treatment of ill effects sustained in the accident and rescue, Corcoran suffering a heart attack. He recovered. 83579-9522



MARK SAMUEL DAWSON
Summerville, South Carolina

Mark Samuel Dawson helped to rescue Ronald B. Thompkins from burning, Round O, South Carolina, September 17, 2011. Semiconscious, Thompkins, 35, lay inside his burning car after a nighttime accident in which the vehicle left the highway, overturned onto its driver's side, and caught fire at its front end. A passing motorist, Dawson, 37, mechanic, stopped at the scene. Another man, who had broken out the glass of the vehicle's sunroof and pulled Thompkins partially out, called for help. Despite flames by then entering the passenger compartment of the vehicle, Dawson approached,

grasped Thompkins, who was aflame, and with the other man pulled him the rest of the way from the vehicle. They dragged him to safety as flames grew to engulf the car, destroying it. Thompkins required hospitalization for treatment of burns and other injuries. 84379-9573



STEVEN DEGRACE

Beresford, New Brunswick

Steven DeGrace rescued Vernon Pell from burning, St. Margarets, New Brunswick, September 18, 2009. Pell, 75, was inside his one-story house after fire erupted in the kitchen. Motorists, including DeGrace, 40, electronics technician, drove upon the scene and stopped, having observed smoke issuing from the structure. Informed that Pell remained inside the house, DeGrace entered through the front door two times in search of him, but he was repulsed both times by smoke that precluded visibility. On a third entry, DeGrace crossed the living room and located Pell in the kitchen. As he began to pull Pell toward the front door, Pell fell to the floor, where he lay inert. Although Pell greatly outweighed him, DeGrace dragged him through the living room and to the front door, where a woman helped to pull Pell out of the house and into the yard. Pell was hospitalized for treatment of severe burns but died the next day. DeGrace recovered from exposure to the smoke.

84344-9553



ROBIN DEHAVEN

Austin, Texas

Robin DeHaven saved Lisa L. Alexander and five others from burning, Austin, Texas, February 18, 2010. Alexander, 45, and five coworkers were trapped in a second-floor office of a four-story building after a man intentionally crashed a single-engine airplane into the structure. The airplane struck elsewhere on the second floor, causing an explosion that set fire to the building and filled it with smoke. One man in the building was killed, as was

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the plane's pilot, and all other building occupants except for Alexander and her coworkers fled to safety. Blocked by heavy smoke and fire in a corridor outside their office, they went to broken-out windows for air and to shout for help. En route to a job, DeHaven, 28, glazier, had been driving nearby and saw the airplane's descent. Tracing smoke to the scene, he was alerted to the victims' plight. DeHaven took a 17-foot extension ladder from his truck and propped it against the building, near where Alexander and the others were standing. He ascended to the second floor and, entering the building, cleared glass from a window that provided for better egress, by means of an outside ledge. DeHaven climbed onto the ledge and aided Alexander through the window and onto the ladder. She descended to safety, followed by her coworkers and then DeHaven. Neither Alexander nor her colleagues suffered serious injuries. DeHaven sustained minor cuts and smoke inhalation, and he recovered. 82949-9500



THOMAS JOSEPH DELGADO

Valley Center, Kansas

Thomas Joseph Delgado helped to save David D. Ong from burning, Wichita, Kansas, August 31, 2011. Ong, 65, remained in the driver's seat of his pickup truck after an accident in which the vehicle left the highway, struck the guide rail, and, remaining upright, caught fire. Flames spread along the passenger side and underside of the vehicle and soon reached its engine area and fuel tank. Dense smoke filled the cab. Delgado, 43, deputy sheriff, responded to the scene. He reached through the open window of the driver's door repeatedly and grabbed Ong in attempts to pull him from the vehicle, but deteriorating conditions, including intense heat, forced him back. Another deputy sheriff arrived and used a fire extinguisher on the front and driver's side of the truck. He then provided a knife to Delgado, who used it to cut the shoulder strap of Ong's safety belt. As the two men resumed the attempt to free Ong, a sudden rush of flames forced them back. Returning to the vehicle, flames by then having compromised its fuel tank to allow burning gasoline to flow from it, they reached inside, freed Ong's grip of the steering wheel, and tugged on him, pulling him with difficulty through the

window. They dragged him across the highway to safety seconds before flames engulfed the truck, destroying it. Ong required hospitalization, and his rescuers received hospital treatment for smoke inhalation, from which they recovered. 84328-9564



LAURIE ANN ELDRIDGE

Cameron, New York

Laurie Ann Eldridge saved Angeline C. Pascucci from being struck by a train, Cameron, New York, June 6, 2011. Pascucci, 81, was in the driver's seat of her car after it became stuck on a railroad track near a crossing. Eldridge, 39, homemaker, was in the yard of her nearby home when she saw the stranded car and then heard the horn of an approaching train. The front of the 47-car freight train was then about 1,250 feet away but was not visible, as the train, at a speed of about 40 m.p.h., was approaching the scene from around a bend. Barefoot, Eldridge ran to the car, having to cross a creek and climb an embankment to reach the track. She shouted to Pascucci to exit the car and then, standing on the ballast, reached through the window of the driver's door, unlocked the door, and opened it. With difficulty she grasped Pascucci by the arms and pulled her out of the car, the train approaching at undiminished speed. Eldridge took Pascucci down an embankment away from the track. When the car became visible to them, the train's crew applied its emergency brakes, but the train could not be stopped in time. It struck the car and knocked it off the track. Pascucci was not injured, but Eldridge sustained cuts to her feet, from which she recovered. 84094-9538



CARA A. ELLIS
Little Egg Harbor Township, New Jersey

Cara A. Ellis died attempting to rescue Bryan H. Mueller from assault, Little Egg Harbor Township, New Jersey, October 4, 2010. Mueller, 52, fell to the ground after a man on the second floor of a nearby townhouse shot him with a semi-automatic rifle. Ellis, 21, homemaker, was in her townhouse two doors away and heard the shots, as did other neighbors. She left her residence, saw Mueller, and was overheard asking him if he needed help as she approached him. The assailant fired again, striking Ellis and mortally wounding her. The assailant turned the weapon on himself and inflicted a fatal wound. Mueller also died at the scene. 83561-9501



CRAIG R. ESPENSHADE
Jensen Beach, Florida

Craig R. Espenshade saved Sophie S. McConnell from drowning, Stuart, Florida, February 18, 2011. While swimming in the Atlantic Ocean, McConnell, 67, became fatigued while battling rough surf and strong currents that kept her from returning to shore. At a point about 300 feet from the beach, she waved for help. Espenshade, 50, business operator, was walking his dog on the beach when he saw her. He obtained a four-foot body board from another beachgoer and swam out to McConnell with it. McConnell by then was nearly unconscious as Espenshade positioned her atop the board. Holding her in place, he started to return toward shore against the current, but it impeded his progress. With difficulty, Espenshade made it to the beach with McConnell, who had swallowed water and was exhausted. She recovered in a day. 83976-9512



TREVOR FOX

Chino, California

Trevor Fox helped to rescue Steven E. Bull from burning, El Segundo, California, March 13, 2011. Bull, 52, was at the controls of a commercial helicopter being used to lift heavy equipment from the roof of a two-story industrial building. During one such lift, the craft lost partial engine power, sending it crashing to the pavement beside the building, where it lay on its side. The helicopter caught fire as Bull, injured and unconscious, remained in the cockpit, strapped to his seat and otherwise trapped in the wreckage, by an arm. One of his coworkers, Fox, 32, mechanic, who was nearby working the job from the ground, witnessed the accident and immediately responded to the scene. He removed glass from the helicopter's windscreen and then extended his upper body into cockpit, despite flames beginning to enter it behind Bull. He released Bull's safety belt and shoulder harness and then supported him, even though Bull outweighed him by more than 50 pounds. Another coworker arrived, as did an employee from another company working on the job. Also extending their upper bodies into the cockpit, those two men joined in the effort to free Bull, Fox fighting the advancing flames with a small fire extinguisher he obtained from the helicopter. After Bull was freed when his other coworker pulled hard on his arm, the three rescuers removed him from the cockpit and dragged him several feet away. Flames grew quickly to consume the cockpit, cabin, and much of the fuselage, including the craft's two fuel tanks. Bull was hospitalized three days for treatment of his injuries, which included minor burns, and he recovered. 84062-9525



BRYAN PHILLIP GROSS

Douglas, Wyoming

Bryan Phillip Gross died attempting to help save a girl from drowning, Douglas, Wyoming, July 28, 2011. A 14-year-old girl entered the North Platte River from the bank and was carried downstream by the swift current. Those responding to the situation included Gross, 29, deputy sheriff, whose shift was then ending. He drove to the opposite bank of the river at the scene, where he parked and removed items of gear and attire. He was seen entering the river and swimming across it toward the girl, whom he intercepted about midstream. Gross spoke to the girl and pushed her toward the bank and then was last seen being swept downstream with her by the current. The girl was pulled from the river by others at a point about a mile from where she had entered the water. She required hospital treatment. A search was launched for Gross when he was shortly discovered to be missing. His body was found in the river three days later at a point a half-mile farther downstream; he had drowned. 84238-9534



JOHN LYNN HAIGHT

Rogue River, Oregon

John Lynn Haight saved Leonard F. Wrobel from drowning, Rogue River, Oregon, June 29, 2011. Wrobel, 70, slipped and fell into the cold, swift-moving water of the Rogue River, which adjoined his property. Losing consciousness, he was swept downstream. A neighbor, Haight, 54, sales manager, was alerted to the situation. Seeing Wrobel floating face down, he ran to the river and, fully clothed, dived into it from his dock. Although he had lost sight of Wrobel, Haight swam downstream in search of him and caught up to him after going about 200 feet. In water beyond his depth, he grasped Wrobel, who outweighed him, and swam to the bank, pulling him. Haight maneuvered Wrobel partially out of the water onto a concrete slab, where he worked to revive him. Emergency personnel responded and

required the use of a raft to remove Haight and Wrobel from the scene. Wrobel required hospitalization, and Haight sustained significant muscle strain from his exertion, for which he underwent therapy. 84144-9542



KIRK D. HALDEMAN

Ligonier, Pennsylvania

Kirk D. Haldeman helped to save at least eight people from assault, Ligonier, Pennsylvania, July 11, 2011. After a man entered the barroom of a pub and grill and had a confrontation with one of the patrons, he left the establishment but returned shortly with a semi-automatic assault rifle. About eight to 10 people were in the barroom, with several more in the nearby dining room and kitchen; among them were Haldeman, 51, insurance agent, and his friend, who were seated at the bar. The assailant pointed the rifle at the patron he had confronted and shot him, killing him. Haldeman stood and, although he was closer to two doors leading from the barroom than he was to the gunman, ran across the room and charged the assailant. He grasped him by the arm and pushed the rifle upward. It fired again. Haldeman's friend approached them as Haldeman forced the assailant against a wall. Reaching them, Haldeman's friend grasped the two men and took them to the floor, the assailant losing control of the rifle. Haldeman and his friend secured the assailant until police arrived shortly and arrested him.

84286-9518



DANIEL HARRISON HALEY

Greeley, Colorado

Daniel Harrison Haley saved Brenndan Daviet from drowning, Greeley, Colorado, November 27, 2010. Brenndan, 10, broke through the ice covering a pond and fell into water seven feet deep at a point about 60 feet from the closer bank. Haley, 25, off-duty state trooper, was nearby on the bank. He immediately ran to the pond, lay on the ice, and crawled toward Brenndan,

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but he too broke through the ice and fell into the water, at a point about seven feet from the boy. As Brenndan's coat was keeping him buoyant, Haley began to break a path through the ice toward the bank, instructing Brenndan to follow him. They proceeded in that fashion until Brenndan began to submerge. Haley then secured Brenndan and, after resting briefly, grasped him by the coat and a leg and heaved him onto solid ice. Brenndan crawled to the bank. Haley continued breaking a path through the ice toward the bank before he was able to hoist himself onto solid ice at a point about halfway back. Unable to gain traction on the slick surface, he rolled to the bank, where he stood briefly before collapsing from exhaustion to the ground. Both Brenndan and Haley were taken by ambulance to the hospital, where Haley was treated for hypothermia and contusions and abrasions to his legs. He sustained temporary nerve damage to his arms but fully recovered. 83661-9496



BILLY HIGGINS

Tiltsville, Ohio

Billy Higgins saved Marion Veneri from burning, Shadyside, Ohio, December 8, 2010. Badly injured and unconscious, Veneri, 89, remained in the driver's seat of his automobile after it was struck from behind by a tractor-trailer and pushed off the highway. Flames broke out at the rear of the car and began to spread inside. Higgins, 35, tire technician, was traveling nearby on the highway and witnessed the accident. He ran to the burning car and attempted without success to gain entry to it. Another motorist gave him a hammer, and with it Higgins broke out the window of the front passenger door. Opening the door, he completely entered the vehicle, reached Veneri, and cut Veneri's safety belt with a pocketknife. Finding that Veneri was trapped in the wreckage, Higgins pulled on him until he was freed. He then backed from the car, pulling Veneri through the passenger door to the ground. Aided by others, Higgins dragged Veneri farther from the vehicle as flames grew to engulf and destroy it. Veneri was taken to the hospital but died later that day of his injuries. Higgins also required hospital treatment, for burns, including blistering, to his face and a hand. He recovered.

83700-9504



ANDREW IAN HULL

Bethel, Connecticut

Andrew Ian Hull saved a woman from assault, Danbury, Connecticut, March 2, 2010. A nurse, 28, was attempting to aid an elderly male patient in the corridor of a hospital when the man produced a loaded, .25-caliber, semi-automatic handgun and pointed it at her. Another nurse, Hull, 35, was on the floor about 50 feet away when he was alerted to the situation. He immediately ran through the corridor, approached the assailant, and pushed him into a wall and then took him to the floor. As the other nurse fled, Hull struggled against the assailant for control of the gun, which the assailant fired repeatedly, striking Hull. Sustaining gunshot wounds to his neck and a finger on his left hand, Hull made his way to the emergency room as the hospital's security officers responded to the floor. They secured the assailant, who fired additional shots, and held him until police arrived shortly and took him into custody. Hull was hospitalized for treatment, including surgery, of his wounds. 82982-9520



ANTHONY S. JOHNSON

Farmington, Minnesota

Anthony S. Johnson saved Oscar R. Haddorff from drowning, Red Wing, Minnesota, May 29, 2011. Unconscious, Haddorff, 56, was being swept downstream in the Mississippi River by a strong current. Witnesses on the nearer bank, including Johnson, 32, inventory and quality control assistant, saw him. Johnson immediately removed his shoes and dived into the 62-degree water from a nearby dock. He swam without difficulty about 50 feet to Haddorff and established a hold on him, but the current kept him from making progress back to the bank on his first attempt. Johnson then readjusted his hold on Haddorff, who outweighed him, and with difficulty began to swim back to the bank, towing him, as the current washed them downstream. Tiring and submerging en route, Johnson reached the bank with

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Haddorff at a point about 420 feet from where he entered the water. Others pulled Haddorff from the river and aided Johnson to safety. Haddorff required hospitalization, and Johnson, cold and fatigued, was treated in the emergency room. He recovered. 84185-9540



CHRISTOPHER M. JOHNSON

Bolingbrook, Illinois

Christopher M. Johnson helped to save Quintin Sconyers from drowning, Bolingbrook, Illinois, December 11, 2011. Quintin, 15, broke through the thin ice on a retention pond at a point about 25 feet from the closer bank and was unable to climb from the open water. Alerted to the situation, Johnson, 20, lifeguard, responded to the scene from the nearby aquatic complex where he was employed. After a second lifeguard responded with a rescue tube, Johnson crawled onto the ice with the tube and made his way toward Quintin. As he approached, Quintin submerged. Johnson immediately entered the frigid water, grasped Quintin, and returned him to the surface. After a brief struggle, Quintin held to the rescue tube as Johnson attempted to break a path through the ice to the bank. Firefighters were then arriving, and one of them donned an immersion suit, entered the water, and took both Johnson and Quintin to the bank. They were treated at the scene for hypothermia and then received further treatment at the hospital, Johnson needing treatment also for abrasions. They recovered. 84614-9559



JONATHAN PAUL JONES

Lisbon, Iowa

Jonathan Paul Jones died helping to save two boys from drowning, Mount Vernon, Iowa, June 19, 2011. The boys, brothers ages 9 and 6, were wading in the Cedar River close to the bank when they lost their footing and were pulled farther out and downstream by a strong current. In another party at the scene, Jones, 41, student, was fishing from the same bank. He immedi-

ately entered the water, swam out to the boys, and established a hold on them, but the boys struggled against him. A woman swam to them from the bank and took the older boy from Jones, and that boy then struggled against her as they were pulled downstream. A man swam to Jones from the bank and pulled the younger boy from him. Jones by then had submerged. The boys were returned to the bank uninjured. Jones's body was recovered from the river the following day; he had drowned. 84125-9566



JOSEPH ANTHONY JONES

Greenfield, Ohio

Joseph Anthony Jones saved Misty M. and Destiny Mathews from burning, Fruitdale, Ohio, January 30, 2011. Mathews, 23, and her daughter, Destiny, 4 months, were passengers in a sedan that collided head on with another vehicle at night in a rural area. The car left the highway and came to rest upright on the shoulder, where it soon caught fire at its front end. Jones, 51, production manager, heard the accident from his nearby home. Dressed in night-clothes, he immediately responded to the scene, where he found Mathews partially extended through the opened front passenger door, her legs caught in the wreckage. Despite flames entering the vehicle at the dashboard, he leaned inside, freed Mathews, and pulled her to safety. Jones then returned to the car, leaned inside again, and tried unsuccessfully to free Destiny's car seat, which was secured to the back seat of the vehicle. As flames were spreading, he withdrew and broke out the window of the car's rear passenger-side door. After clearing away the glass, Jones extended his body to the waist inside the vehicle and freed Destiny from her seat, flames encroaching along the car's ceiling. Jones backed from the vehicle with Destiny and took her to safety moments before flames grew to engulf its interior. Mathews required hospitalization for treatment of her injuries, and Jones hurt an arm while breaking through the window. Destiny was not injured. 83829-9523



DOUGLAS D. KILLINGBECK
Milford, Michigan

Douglas D. Killingbeck died attempting to save John M. Przydatek from drowning, Milford, Michigan, May 21, 2011. John, 16, and a friend were paddling a canoe on the Huron River when the canoe was caught in turbulent water at the base of the spillway of a dam. The canoe overturned, throwing both boys into the water. John's friend was washed from the turbulent water and emerged to safety, but John became caught in the boil of water at the base of the dam. Killingbeck, 48, manager, had been canoeing alone on the river and was in the vicinity of the dam when he was alerted to the accident. He carried his racing canoe to a point along the bank about 100 feet below the dam, launched it, and paddled toward the dam, en route donning a lifejacket. Reaching the area of turbulent water, Killingbeck got out of the canoe but was immediately submerged, and he too became caught in the boil. Rescue personnel arrived shortly and recovered both John and Killingbeck from the river, but neither could be revived. They had drowned. 84051-9506



CONNOR FREDERICK KLEIN
Cedar Falls, Iowa

Connor Frederick Klein helped to save Dave Dalcourt from drowning, Daytona Beach, Florida, March 15, 2011. While swimming in the Atlantic Ocean, Dalcourt, 61, struggled against a strong current that kept him from returning to shore. A man who was nearby swam to him to aid him, but Dalcourt struggled against the man, submerging him, and they were carried farther out, to a point about 270 from the beach. As the man then started to shore with Dalcourt, he called for help to Connor, 16, high school student, who was in the water between them and the shore. Connor swam to them and supported Dalcourt, allowing the man to catch his breath. The man then grasped Dalcourt again, by an arm, and with Connor on Dalcourt's other side, they towed Dalcourt out of the current and toward shore and then aided

him to the beach. Dalcourt had swallowed water and was exhausted, and Connor was very tired. They recovered. 83957-9530



IONE FLETCHER KLEVEN

Castro Valley, California

Ione Fletcher Kleven rescued a boy from assault, Castro Valley, California, May 14, 2010. At night, a 14-year-old boy was attacked by three men in a residential neighborhood. They took him to the ground, where they punched and kicked him, and one of the assailants stabbed him three times. The boy screamed for help, attracting the attention of Kleven, 64, portrait artist, who lived nearby. Kleven opened her front door and saw the assault. Screaming, she ran to where the boy lay on the ground, two of the assailants atop him and the third standing close by. She shouted at the assailants to get off the boy and then grasped him by the arm and pulled him to his feet away from the assailants. By then, Kleven's husband was on the porch, and he too shouted at the assailants. The assailants fled in a nearby car. The boy was hospitalized for a week for treatment of his stab wounds, two to his back and one to his stomach. 84493-9562



MICHAEL J. LEDGARD

Greensburg, Pennsylvania

Michael J. Ledgard helped to save at least eight people from assault, Ligonier, Pennsylvania, July 11, 2011. After a man entered the barroom of a pub and grill and had a confrontation with one of the patrons, he left the establishment but returned shortly with a semi-automatic assault rifle. About eight to 10 people were in the barroom, with several more in the nearby dining room and kitchen; among them were Ledgard, 52, contractor, and his friend, who were seated at the bar. The assailant pointed the rifle at the patron he had confronted and shot him, killing him. Ledgard stood and, although he was closer to two doors leading from the barroom than he was

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to the gunman, followed his friend across the room to charge the assailant. Ledgard's friend grasped the assailant by the arm and pushed the rifle upward. It fired again. Ledgard reached them as his friend forced the assailant against a wall. He grasped the two men and took them to the floor, the assailant losing control of the rifle. Ledgard and his friend secured the assailant until police arrived shortly and arrested him. 84191-9519



CARL CASEY LOANDO

Honolulu, Hawaii

Carl Casey Loando saved Helen Choy from burning, Honolulu, Hawaii, April 27, 2011. Choy, 85, was inside her one-story house after fire broke out in an enclosed porch and spread. Loando, 54, land survey technician, was working in the area and responded to the scene after seeing smoke there. He saw Choy's husband at a doorway in the house's carport and learned from him that Choy remained inside the burning structure. Loando entered the house through that door, which opened into a hall, and, crawling, penetrated dense smoke, which did not allow visibility. Hearing Choy faintly call for help, he crawled in her direction, reaching her in the hall about 20 feet from the door. Loando stood and, grasping Choy underneath the arms, dragged her to the door and outside to the carport. As he moved her down a ramp to ground level, the line to an oxygen mask that Choy was wearing impeded their progress. Loando's coworker responded to the carport and removed the line, and he and Loando took Choy the rest of the way down the ramp. Nearly overcome by smoke, Loando exited the carport for air as Choy was taken to safety. Flames grew quickly to engulf the house as well as a car parked in the carport. Choy and Loando both required hospital treatment for smoke inhalation. 84461-9560



NATHAN JAMES MARLING

Cedar Rapids, Iowa

Nathan James Marling helped to save a boy from drowning, Mount Vernon, Iowa, June 19, 2011. A 6-year-old boy and his older brother were wading in the Cedar River close to the bank when they lost their footing and were pulled farther out and downstream by a strong current. A man who had been fishing at the scene and a woman from the boys' party swam out to them in rescue attempts, but the boys struggled against them. As the woman took hold of the older boy and attempted to return him to the bank, Marling, 18, lifeguard, from another party at the scene, entered the water and swam out to the younger boy. He took him from the fisherman, who had submerged by then, but the boy struggled against him and submerged him repeatedly. Resurfacing, Marling calmed the boy and swam him to the bank. The older boy was likewise taken to safety, but the fisherman submerged and drowned.

84189-9568



CHRISTINE A. MARTY

Sarver, Pennsylvania

Christine A. Marty helped to save Roumianka Connolly from drowning, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, August 19, 2011. During a flash flood caused by heavy rain, Connolly, 69, became stranded in her car, which she had been driving on a highway through a low-lying area. She shouted for help. Marty, 21, college student, and her mother were in one of several other vehicles that became stranded in the same area. They escaped to the roof of their car, where Marty heard Connolly. Marty got into the water, which reached depths of up to nine feet, and, rather than make her way to the nearer hillside, swam to Connolly's car. She grasped Connolly through the open window of the driver's door and pulled her from the vehicle. Still holding Connolly, she swam to a sport utility vehicle that was floating nearby. With help from that vehicle's driver, Marty supported Connolly while holding to

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the vehicle. A rescue boat arrived within several minutes and took the women to safety. Connolly, who sustained contusions and swallowed water, was taken to the hospital for observation. She recovered. Four of the other stranded motorists died in the floodwaters. 84298-9528



MARK A. MCCULLAGH

Charlotte, North Carolina

Mark A. McCullagh helped to save a girl and Leonard Terry from drowning, Charlotte, North Carolina, January 12, 2010. A 9-year-old girl walked onto the ice of a partially frozen pond at an apartment complex and broke through at a point about 60 feet from the nearer bank. Although he could not swim, Terry, 25, walked onto the ice toward her and extended a hand to her, but then he broke through the ice. The girl clung to his back as he trod water, submerging repeatedly, and called for help. McCullagh, 46, business executive, was alerted to the situation from his nearby home. He responded to the pond, where he removed his outer attire and then crawled across the ice to the open water. McCullagh managed to get the girl onto solid ice, and she made her way to safety, but he broke through himself and entered the frigid water. McCullagh then supported Terry, who outweighed him, against the solid ice as they awaited help. Arriving fire personnel used ropes and a ladder to pull Terry, and then McCullagh, from the open water and across the ice to safety. The girl was taken to the hospital, as were Terry and McCullagh, McCullagh requiring treatment for hypothermia. He recovered. 82871-9551



ROBERT ELI MEYER

Kingston, Massachusetts

Robert Eli Meyer saved Johaun B. Bennett from drowning, Scituate, Massachusetts, May 14, 2011. Playing in knee-deep water off an Atlantic Ocean beach, Johaun, 10, was suddenly taken farther from shore by a strong undertow. In rough water over his depth, he was unable to return to the

beach. Working at a property near the scene, Meyer, 28, assistant nursing home administrator, was alerted. He ran to a point on the beach opposite Johaun, where he removed his outer attire. Meyer then entered the 50-degree water and waded and swam through the surf about 300 feet to Johaun. He established a hold on Johaun with one arm and with the other began to swim to shore. Their progress through the rough water was difficult, Meyer struggling to maintain his hold of Johaun and to keep Johaun's head above the surface, and Meyer took in water and became tired. When they reached wadable water, Meyer carried Johaun toward shore, where others assisted him. Both Meyer and Johaun were cold and tired, but they recovered later that day. 84868-9575



MITCHELL MOCHINSKI

Lester Prairie, Minnesota

Mitchell Mochinski saved a man from drowning, Lake Shore, Minnesota, November 5, 2010. Mochinski, 22, sales representative, was fishing the narrows between Upper Gull and Gull lakes when he saw an 81-year-old man drop from a nearby bridge into the water. As the man made no effort to reach either bank of the 75-foot-wide narrows, Mochinski, without hesitation, ran to a point on the bank opposite him. Removing two coats but leaving on two pairs of pants and his boots, Mochinski entered the water, which was frigid; the air temperature was about 35 degrees. He swam to the man, who was face down in the water against a bridge pier closer to the opposite bank. Mochinski turned the man over and then, grasping him by his shirtfront, swam with one arm to the closer bank, his arms and legs by then numbing. Others helped him pull the man out of the water. The man revived at the scene and was taken to the hospital for treatment of hypothermia. Mochinski was cold and shivering but recovered later that day. 83669-9536

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JOHN F. MORRIS, JR.

Mobile, Alabama

John F. Morris, Jr., died attempting to save Angela E. Velasco from drowning, Navarre, Florida, April 4, 2011. Velasco, 40, was swimming in the Gulf of Mexico with her 6-year-old daughter when she lost her footing and became caught in a strong current in water beyond her depth. A friend of the family, Morris, 23, tree service employee, was nearby. He took Velasco's daughter to shore and then turned back for Velasco, the current taking him beyond her. Velasco struggled toward shore and was aided to safety by others. Responding firefighters located Morris at a point about 150 feet from shore. They removed him from the water and attempted to revive him, but he had drowned. 83981-9498



ZACHARY MICHAEL MORTENSON

Hamilton, Ohio

Zachary Michael Mortenson saved Dane J. Sapp from drowning, College Corner, Ohio, June 8, 2011. While swimming in Acton Lake, Sapp, 21, became fatigued at a point about 360 feet from the beach. He struggled to stay afloat and called for help. In another party at the scene, Zachary, 15, high school student, was about to leave the beach when he saw Sapp struggling. He ran 600 feet to a point on the beach opposite Sapp and then entered the water and swam out to him. By then, Sapp was barely able to stay at the surface. Zachary grasped him and in a cross-chest carry swam to wadable water at the bank, towing him. Exhausted, Sapp needed help leaving the lake. He was taken to the hospital for treatment but was not detained, and he recovered. Zachary was tired after the rescue but recovered later that day. 84098-9537



BOBBY JOE O'QUINN III

Bude, Mississippi

Bobby Joe O'Quinn III helped to save Stormy L. Dunaway and died attempting to save Audrionna S. Lofton from drowning, Bude, Mississippi, April 2, 2011. Stormy, 9, and Audrionna, 7, were playing with other children in the water off a beach at Okhissa Lake. The girls encountered difficulty near the buoy line, which was about 40 feet from the bank. Adults responding from their party included O'Quinn, 19. Removing his shoes, O'Quinn entered the water and waded and swam out to Stormy, who was holding to a buoy. He pulled her from it and pushed her to another man, who then took her to safety. As Audrionna was not visible, O'Quinn and others swam in search of her. During his search efforts, O'Quinn submerged and did not re-surface. Rescue personnel arrived and recovered Audrionna's body within a few hours; she had drowned. The search for O'Quinn continued the following day and into the next, when his body was located beyond the buoy line in water 35 feet deep. He too had drowned. 83967-9517



JOSEPH C. PAGE

Wichita, Kansas

Joseph C. Page helped to save David D. Ong from burning, Wichita, Kansas, August 31, 2011. Ong, 65, remained in the driver's seat of his pickup truck after an accident in which the vehicle left the highway, struck the guide rail, and, remaining upright, caught fire. Flames spread along the passenger side and underside of the vehicle and soon reached its engine area and fuel tank. Dense smoke filled the cab. Page, 36, deputy sheriff, responded to the scene, where he found another deputy sheriff attempting to remove Ong through the open window of the driver's door. Despite deteriorating conditions, including intense heat, Page approached the vehicle and used a fire extinguisher on the front and driver's side of the truck. He then provided a knife to the other deputy, who used it to cut the shoulder strap of Ong's safety belt.

As the two men resumed the attempt to free Ong, a sudden rush of flames forced them back. Returning to the vehicle, flames by then having compromised its fuel tank to allow burning gasoline to flow from it, they reached inside, freed Ong's grip of the steering wheel, and tugged on him, pulling him with difficulty through the window. They dragged him across the highway to safety seconds before flames engulfed the truck, destroying it. Ong required hospitalization, and his rescuers received hospital treatment for smoke inhalation, from which they recovered. 84329-9565



CHRISTOPHER PATINO
Rochester, New York

Christopher Patino helped to rescue Nicole Bean from assault, Henrietta, New York, January 25, 2011. Nicole, 17, was walking through a grocery store when the man with her produced a kitchen knife and without provocation stabbed her repeatedly. She screamed for help. Customers, including Christopher, 16, high school student, and a friend approached the corner of the store where the assault was taking place. Coming into view of the scene, Christopher saw the knife and that Nicole was bloodied. He immediately rushed the assailant, shoved him off Nicole, and struggled against him. His friend also responded and, joining in the struggle, removed the knife from the assailant. As Christopher, joined by another man, took the assailant to the floor and secured him, his friend removed Nicole from the immediate scene. Police arrived shortly and arrested the assailant. Nicole was hospitalized for treatment of numerous stab wounds and lacerations. Christopher sustained a minor injury to his hand, from which he recovered. 83819-9556



MICHAEL CHAD PERRY

Phenix City, Alabama

Michael Chad Perry saved Christopher M. Sanders from an out-of-control vehicle, Columbus, Georgia, August 25, 2011. Sanders, 27, was driving a sport utility vehicle on a parkway, on which the speed limit was 65 m.p.h., when a medical condition caused him to lose control of it. Perry, 26, mechanic, was driving behind Sanders and saw the vehicle slow and shift lanes. He then drove ahead of Sanders, parked on the highway's shoulder, and, exiting his truck, began to run after Sanders's vehicle, which by then had passed him at a speed of about 15 m.p.h. Perry reached the passenger side of Sanders's vehicle and opened the front door. With the vehicle still moving, he entered and lay on its front passenger seat, his lower legs extending outside, through the doorway. Perry grasped the steering wheel and, taking the vehicle to the shoulder, put its gearshift lever in the "park" position. The vehicle stopped against the guide rail, one of Perry's legs stuck between the opened door and the body of the vehicle. Perry freed himself and went to the driver's side to tend to Sanders. Sanders required hospital treatment, and Perry sustained a bruise to his right leg. 84327-9543



RYAN B. PHILLIPS

Cincinnati, Ohio

Ryan B. Phillips saved Necardo King from burning, Cincinnati, Ohio, February 28, 2011. Necardo, 3, was in a second-floor bedroom of his family's two-story house after fire broke out in that room at night. Phillips, 43, construction worker, who lived across the street, was alerted to the fire. Phillips ran to the scene and, learning that Necardo was inside the burning structure, entered the house through its front door, taking a blanket with him. He crossed through the front room, found the stairs to the second floor, and ascended them. The stairs opened to the bedroom, which was filled with dense smoke that severely restricted visibility. Phillips saw Necardo seated

on the floor about halfway into the room, the walls of which were aflame. He lay on his stomach, extended himself along the floor, and reached for and grasped Necardo. Phillips pulled the boy to himself, covered him with the blanket, and slid down the stairs with him. Regaining his footing, Phillips carried Necardo outside to safety. Necardo was treated at the hospital for smoke inhalation. Phillips inhaled smoke and bruised his back, and he recovered. 83894-9502



ANGELA M. PIERCE
Dayton, Ohio

Angela M. Pierce helped to rescue Jonathan C. Seiter from assault, Dayton, Ohio, December 11, 2010. At night, Seiter, 43, a police officer, stopped a male motorist and was attempting to pat him down on the highway shoulder when the man started to struggle against him. During the intense scuffle that followed, the assailant attempted to remove Seiter's weapon from its holster, and at one point he pinned the officer against the trunk of his car. Pierce, 29, cashier, was a passenger in a vehicle that drove upon the scene. Seeing the assault, she left the vehicle and ran to where the men were struggling. Over the course of several seconds she repeatedly struck the assailant about the head, giving Seiter the opportunity to gain control of him. Another officer then arrived and took the assailant to the pavement and secured him. Seiter required hospital treatment for injuries he sustained in the incident, and he recovered. 83718-9510



THOMAS H. PORTER
Cleveland, Texas

Thomas H. Porter saved Lyndzie L. Lucius from burning, Splendora, Texas, January 6, 2011. Lyndzie, 1, was secured in her child safety seat on the rear passenger seat of a pickup truck driven by her father. The vehicle struck a feral hog and then left the roadway, hit a tree, and came to rest upright. Fire

broke out at the front of its undercarriage and spread. Lyndzie's father escaped the vehicle through a window but was immobilized by multiple injuries. Porter, 52, disabled business operator, heard the accident from his nearby home and drove to the scene. Alerted by another motorist that Lyndzie was inside the pickup, Porter found that he could not reach her from the driver's door, which was inoperable. He climbed into the bed of the truck and approached its rear window, the glass of which was missing. Despite flames by then spreading into the front of the passenger compartment, Porter leaned through the window and worked to free Lyndzie from her seat while shielding her from the heat and flames. Unsuccessful, he retrieved his pocketknife and cut the seat's straps. Porter then lifted Lyndzie from the seat and backed through the window. He handed her to another man who had responded and then left the truck for safety. Flames grew to engulf and destroy the vehicle. Lyndzie was taken to the hospital for treatment of minor injuries, and she recovered. 83765-9499



EDWARD J. POWER, JR.

Everett, Massachusetts

Edward J. Power, Jr., died after attempting to rescue Edna M. Power from burning, Everett, Massachusetts, March 10, 2010. Bedfast, Edna, 80, was in her apartment, which was at the front of the second floor of her family's 2.5-story house. Fire broke out at night on the structure's first-floor front porch and spread into the house. Edna's brother, Edward, 76, retired postal worker, who also was in the second-floor apartment, descended the stairs and saw the fire. As the first-floor tenants fled the building, Edward turned and went back up to the second floor. A police officer arrived and started to ascend the stairs. Seeing Edward emerge through the smoke on the second floor, the officer told him to leave the house, but Edward returned into the apartment. In rapidly deteriorating conditions, the officer fled the building. Firefighters responded shortly and, gaining entry to the structure through a rear door, found Edward, badly burned, on the floor near Edna's bed. They removed him from the structure. He was taken to the hospital, where he died of burns and smoke inhalation a few hours later. Edna died at the scene. 83389-9532

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JUSTIN MICHAEL REED

Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

Justin Michael Reed helped to save Jennifer Torres from drowning, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, May 25, 2011. Torres, 18, fell into the Delaware River from a pier along the bank and was quickly carried away by a strong tidal current. A male friend who was present jumped into the river from the pier after her and reached her, but they became separated and Torres was swept farther away. Reed, 29, teacher, and a friend were arriving at the pier to fish about then and were alerted to the situation. Reed partially disrobed, jumped into the water from the pier, and swam about 180 feet to Torres. He positioned her on her back and started to swim to the bank with her, but she struggled against him en route, submerging him. Reed's friend had left the pier and reached a point on the bank opposite Reed and Torres. He entered the water, swam to them, and aided them to safety. Reed was tired and cold, but he recovered. Torres's friend drowned. 84219-9555



DAVID M. REICHENBERG

Spring Valley, New York

David M. Reichenberg died saving Dovid Herbst from electrocution, Spring Valley, New York, August 28, 2011. Dovid, 6, and other members of his family were outside their home after a hurricane-related storm passed through the area, causing damage, including downed power lines. With them was a friend of the family, Reichenberg, 50, business operator. As Reichenberg and Dovid's father talked, Dovid made contact with a live electrical charge, which shocked him severely. His father grasped him to free him but likewise was shocked. Reichenberg immediately advanced to Dovid and broke the contact. He was electrocuted and fell to the ground, a live power line atop him. Dovid was hospitalized for treatment of severe burns and died 12 days later.

84318-9539



CYNTHIA L. RIEDIGER

Calgary, Alberta

Cynthia L. Riediger died helping to save James F. Barker from drowning, Pelee Island, Ontario, August 23, 2010. Swimming in Lake Erie, Barker, 64, experienced difficulty against a strong undertow while attempting to return to the beach. His plight was witnessed by a friend on shore, Riediger, 53, geologist, who directed that help be called. Riediger and Barker's wife then entered the water with an inflatable float and made their way out to Barker, who was about 165 feet from shore. With Barker's wife holding him to the float, she and Riediger started to return to the beach, but at some point Riediger became separated from the float. Barker and his wife reached the beach safely. Barker was nearly exhausted, but he recovered. Riediger's body was recovered from the lake two days later; she had drowned. 83493-9571



LOUIS CHARLES ROSSO

Egg Harbor Township, New Jersey

Louis Charles Rosso helped to save two children from drowning, Atlantic City, New Jersey, July 4, 2011. A boy and a girl, ages 10 and 12, were in the Atlantic Ocean at a point about 300 feet from the beach when the girl called out for help. Rosso, 70, business operator, had just arrived on the beach nearby and heard her. Removing his shirt and shoes, he ran into the ocean and waded and swam out to the children, who grasped him by the arms and submerged him on his arrival. Disengaging himself, he oriented the children toward shore and repeatedly pushed on them to get them to safety. During the process, which fatigued him, he worked to keep the girl, who was losing consciousness, at the surface of the water. A responding police officer swam out to them and started back to shore with the children, and lifeguards followed shortly and towed Rosso to shore with a personal watercraft. Exhausted, Rosso was taken to the hospital, where he was kept overnight for treatment of having nearly drowned. He recovered. 84159-9505



MUSTAFA A. SAID

Henrietta, New York

Mustafa A. Said helped to rescue Nicole Bean from assault, Henrietta, New York, January 25, 2011. Nicole, 17, was walking through a grocery store when the man with her produced a kitchen knife and without provocation stabbed her repeatedly. She screamed for help. Customers, including Said, 19, high school student, and a friend approached the corner of the store where the assault was taking place. Coming into view of the scene, they saw the knife and that Nicole was bloodied. They immediately rushed the assailant, with Said's friend shoving him off Nicole and struggling against him. Said joined in the struggle and removed the knife from the assailant, sustaining a severe laceration to his right hand while doing so. Said then took Nicole from the immediate scene as his friend, joined by another man, took the assailant to the floor and secured him. Police arrived shortly and arrested the assailant. Nicole was hospitalized for treatment of numerous stab wounds and lacerations. Said required overnight hospitalization for treatment, including suturing, of his wound. 83820-9557



ANTHONY V. SAVEDRA

Wildomar, California

Anthony V. Savedra helped to rescue Steven E. Bull from burning, El Segundo, California, March 13, 2011. Bull, 52, was at the controls of a commercial helicopter being used to lift heavy equipment from the roof of a two-story industrial building. During one such lift, the craft lost partial engine power, sending it crashing to the pavement beside the building, where it lay on its side. The helicopter caught fire as Bull, injured and unconscious, remained in the cockpit, strapped to his seat and otherwise trapped in the wreckage, by an arm. Savedra, 33, a welder from another company who was working the job from the building's roof, immediately responded to the scene with one of Bull's coworkers. Joining another of Bull's coworkers at the

wreckage, who had gained access to the cockpit and released Bull's safety belt and shoulder harness, Savedra extended his upper body into the cockpit and worked to free Bull, despite flames entering the cockpit from behind him. After one of the other rescuers pulled hard on Bull's arm to free him, the three men removed him from the cockpit and dragged him several feet away. Flames grew quickly to consume the cockpit, cabin, and much of the fuselage, including the craft's two fuel tanks. Bull was hospitalized three days for treatment of his injuries, which included minor burns, and he recovered.

83959-9526



SHANE D. SCOTT

Bishop, California

Shane D. Scott rescued Drew C. Delis from burning, Bishop, California, August 9, 2010. Delis, 22, was a passenger in a sport utility vehicle that overturned onto its roof and caught fire in a highway accident. Driving nearby, Scott, 33, a deputy sheriff on duty, saw flames from the scene in his vehicle's rearview mirror. He responded to the scene and approached the sport utility vehicle, which was then engulfed by flames. Hearing screaming, he obtained his fire extinguisher and, using it against the flames, saw Delis moving in the cargo area of the burning vehicle. Scott approached the rear window on the passenger side of the vehicle, knelt, and extended his upper body through the window opening. He grasped Delis but lost his grip during a burst of heat. In a second attempt, Scott pulled Delis through the window and moved him to the highway shoulder. Delis required extensive hospitalization for treatment of severe burns. Three of the vehicle's other occupants sustained fatal injuries, as did the driver of a van involved in the accident. Scott received hospital treatment for smoke inhalation, and he recovered. 83691-9511



MATTHEW R. SCRIBNER

Palmyra, New York

Matthew R. Scribner saved Kurt E. Deisinger from drowning, Palmyra, New York, April 23, 2011. Deisinger, 26, and his brother were kayaking on Ganargua Creek near the base of a low-head dam. Water from the nearby Erie Canal spilled over the dam into the creek, forming a boil at the base of the dam. When Deisinger's kayak rolled, throwing him into the boil, his brother paddled toward him, but he too fell into the turbulent water and with Deisinger became caught there momentarily. They were then pushed downstream, conscious but immobilized, and they shouted for help. Scribner, 24, and three friends were on a bank of the creek about 150 feet away and witnessed the accident. Removing his shirt and shoes, Scribner jumped feet first into the creek, which was high and running fast from spring runoff, and was stunned by the coldness of the water. He swam to Deisinger, reaching him at the outer edge of the boil, and towed him to the north bank. Deisinger's brother, meanwhile, floated with the current toward the north bank, and when he was within reach, Scribner and the others pulled him from the creek. Deisinger and his brother were both hospitalized for treatment of hypothermia, and they recovered. Scribner also needed hospital treatment for hypothermia, and he too recovered. 83999-9549



CRAIG A. SIBLEY

Caledon, Ontario

Craig A. Sibley helped to save Dave Dalcourt from drowning, Daytona Beach, Florida, March 15, 2011. While swimming in the Atlantic Ocean, Dalcourt, 61, struggled against a strong current that kept him from returning to shore. Sibley, 53, biotechnology manager, was in the water nearby and, having also felt the current, had started to return to the beach. As he progressed, he heard Dalcourt call out for help. Sibley turned and swam to Dalcourt, finding him submerged. When he took Dalcourt to the surface, a

struggle between the men ensued, Dalcourt submerging Sibley, and they were carried farther out, to a point about 270 feet from shore. Establishing a hold on Dalcourt, Sibley started to swim toward the beach. Tiring en route, he called for help to a teenage boy who was in the water between them and the shore. The boy swam to them and supported Dalcourt, allowing Sibley to catch his breath. Sibley then grasped Dalcourt again, by an arm, and with the boy on Dalcourt's other side, they towed Dalcourt out of the current and toward shore and then aided him to the beach. Dalcourt had swallowed water and was exhausted, and Sibley was very tired. They recovered.

83956-9529



JOSHUA W. STEED

Abilene, Texas

Joshua W. Steed rescued Jacob B. Allen from assault, Abilene, Texas, September 7, 2011. Allen, 21, was working at the front desk of an office in an apartment complex when a man entered, approached him, and, without provocation, pointed a .38-caliber revolver at him. Allen sought refuge behind a freestanding brick fireplace nearby, but the assailant pursued him from the opposite side and shot at him repeatedly, striking him in the head. Steed, 20, college student, also was working in the office. He picked up a chair and, although access to the office door was open to him, approached the assailant and threw the chair at him, stunning him. As the assailant turned toward Steed, Steed rushed him, grabbing him by the arms and ramming him into a wall. He then threw the assailant to the floor, disabling and disarming him, and secured his weapon. Allen was hospitalized for treatment of his gunshot wound, later requiring surgery. Steed sustained minor bruising, and he recovered. 84347-9563



KENNETH J. STEPHENS, SR.

Dunnellon, Florida

Kenneth J. Stephens, Sr., died after saving Priscilla M. DeLira and attempting to save Pauline R. Yambao from drowning, Ocklawaha, Florida, June 13, 2011. Priscilla, 8, and Yambao, 44, were swimming in Lake Weir not far off a boat that was anchored about 1,500 feet from the closer bank. Aboard the boat were Priscilla's parents as well as the boat's operator, Stephens, 55, blast team supervisor, who was Priscilla's uncle and Yambao's brother-in-law. Yambao experienced difficulty while swimming and began to struggle with Priscilla, who was wearing a life jacket. Stephens immediately jumped into the water, swam to Priscilla, and returned her to the boat, where her parents took her aboard to safety. Stephens then swam back toward Yambao but submerged suddenly and did not resurface. Yambao had also submerged. Their bodies were recovered from the lake the following day; they had drowned.

84102-9574



CHRISTOPHER S. STIMPSON

Tucumcari, New Mexico

Christopher S. Stimpson helped to rescue David A. Wallace from burning, San Jon, New Mexico, July 31, 2011. Wallace, 52, lay unconscious on the floor of the cab of the tractor-trailer that, driven by his partner, had struck the rear of another tractor-trailer on a ramp of an interstate highway. Flames broke out on the passenger side of the tractor and spread into the cab and its sleeper berth. A police officer who responded rescued the partner through the window of the driver's door but was unsuccessful in his attempts at reaching Wallace. Nearby, Stimpson, 50, state police officer, was alerted to the accident, and he immediately responded. Climbing onto the wreckage of the fuel-tank housing, he entered the cab head first through the same window, grasped Wallace, and, as the other officer held to his legs, worked to free him as flames grew in the cab and sleeper. Stimpson maneuvered from the cab,

pulling Wallace, whose clothing was burning. The other officer took Wallace to the pavement shortly before flames engulfed the cab and spread to the trailers of both vehicles, destroying them. Wallace was hospitalized for treatment of significant injuries, including burns to his arms and legs. 84389-9545



CONNOR FARLAND STOTTS

Oceanside, California

Connor Farland Stotts saved Christian E. Osuna and Karen T. Ainuu from drowning, Oceanside, California, July 31, 2011. While swimming in the Pacific Ocean, Osuna, 18; Karen, 16; and others in their party were carried farther from the beach by a rip current. They struggled to return to shore but made little progress. Connor, 17, high school student, had also been carried out by the current, but he was able to swim against it to wadable water, en route taking one of the girls in the party with him. Seeing that the others remained stranded about 200 feet from the beach, Connor returned to them, finding that Osuna had taken in water and was having difficulty staying afloat. With Osuna holding to him, Connor swam a side stroke against the current toward shore, tiring and swallowing water en route. Osuna waded to safety. Connor again turned and swam out to the others. Karen by then was semiconscious and trying to stay afloat. Connor positioned himself under her and attempted to swim to shore, but he made no progress against the current. He then helped Karen secure a hold of his neck and in that fashion returned toward the beach, towing her, the remaining victims following. Nearly exhausted, Connor carried Karen from the water. He and the others were checked at the scene, but none of them needed medical treatment, and they recovered. 84829-9576



LEONARD TERRY
Pineville, North Carolina

Leonard Terry helped to save a girl from drowning, Charlotte, North Carolina, January 12, 2010. A 9-year-old girl walked onto the ice of a partially frozen pond at an apartment complex and broke through at a point about 60 feet from the nearer bank. Terry, 25, had been watching her from his nearby apartment. He immediately ran to the pond and then, although he could not swim, walked across the ice toward her. Nearing the open water, he extended a hand to the girl, but then he broke through the ice. He submerged completely, and when he surfaced, the girl clung to his back as he trod water, submerging repeatedly, and called for help. Another man who lived nearby arrived and made his way across the ice to the open water. He managed to get the girl onto solid ice, and she made her way to safety, but he broke through himself and entered the frigid water. The other man then supported Terry against the solid ice as they awaited help. Arriving fire personnel used ropes and a ladder to pull Terry, and then the other man, from the open water and across the ice to safety. The girl was taken to the hospital, as were Terry and the other man, Terry requiring treatment for hypothermia. He recovered. 84380-9550



JASON W. THURSTON
Northport, Maine

Jason W. Thurston rescued Nina Tyutyunnyk from burning, Northport, Maine, December 24, 2010. Tyutyunnyk, 71, was inside her one-story home after fire erupted in a bedroom and sent smoke throughout the house. A neighbor, Thurston, 30, was alerted to the fire and informed that Tyutyunnyk was inside. He went to the scene, entered the structure through a side door opening off a deck, and found Tyutyunnyk fighting the fire in the bedroom. He pulled her outside, but she re-entered and returned to the bedroom. Again Thurston entered the house and pulled her out, but she repeatedly

broke away from him to re-enter the structure, during which she inhaled smoke and sustained burns to her face, arms, and back. Thurston re-entered the house a final time and took Tyutyunnyk to the deck. Flames grew to engulf the bedroom and spread beyond it. Tyutyunnyk required hospitalization for treatment of her injuries. Thurston, his hair singed, was given oxygen at the scene and treated at the emergency room for smoke inhalation. He recovered. 83742-9508



ALEXIS RENEE VAUGHAN

Fullerton, California

Alexis Renee Vaughan helped to rescue SueLynn Panter from an attacking deer, Franklin, Idaho, September 30, 2011. Panter, 44, was jogging on a rural road when a 175-pound, three-point, mule deer started to follow her. She tried to scare it off, but it approached closer and then attacked her, taking her to the ground and pushing her into an adjacent cornfield. Over the course of several minutes, the deer mauled her, inflicting puncture wounds with its antlers. She screamed for help. Alexis, 17, high school student, and her father came upon the scene in their automobile, and Alexis saw the attack. Telling her father to stop the car, Alexis jumped from it and ran to Panter. She kicked and punched the deer, but to no effect. After her father then responded, grasped the deer by its antlers, and pulled it away from Panter, Alexis aided Panter to the car. The deer turned on Alexis's father, taking him to the ground and mauling him. Alexis returned to the cornfield with a hammer from the car and struck the deer repeatedly about its head and neck. It retreated and left the scene. Alexis aided her father to the car and drove him and Panter to the hospital, where both were treated for puncture wounds that required suturing. Alexis sustained bruising. All three recovered.

84483-9515



MICHAEL CRAIG VAUGHAN

Fullerton, California

Michael Craig Vaughan helped to rescue SueLynn Panter from an attacking deer, Franklin, Idaho, September 30, 2011. Panter, 44, was jogging on a rural road when a 175-pound, three-point, mule deer started to follow her. She tried to scare it off, but it approached closer and then attacked her, taking her to the ground and pushing her into an adjacent cornfield. Over the course of several minutes, the deer mauled her, inflicting puncture wounds with its antlers. She screamed for help. Vaughan, 38, electrician, and his teenaged daughter came upon the scene in their automobile, saw the attack, and stopped. Reaching Panter first, Vaughan's daughter kicked and punched the deer, but to no effect. Vaughan then responded, grasped the deer by its antlers, and pulled it away from Panter, freeing her. The deer then turned on Vaughan, taking him to the ground and mauling him. His daughter obtained a hammer from the car and struck the deer repeatedly about its head and neck. It retreated and left the scene. She then aided Vaughan to the car and drove him and Panter to the hospital, where both were treated for puncture wounds that required suturing. They recovered. 84413-9516



SEAN C. M. VOREL

Bennington, Nebraska

Sean C. M. Vorel helped to rescue Marcella M. Gilbert from an attacking dog, Bennington, Nebraska, June 2, 2011. Gilbert, 78, was in a fenced-in yard of the kennel she operated when a 70-pound pit bull terrier she was keeping attacked her. The dog took her to the ground and mauled her, inflicting severe injury. Driving by, Vorel, 27, construction worker, saw the attack. He stopped at the scene and, finding the gate to the yard locked, climbed inside. Having obtained a 2.5-foot-long board, Vorel approached the dog and struck it repeatedly about the head. Its attention distracted from Gilbert, the dog attempted to attack Vorel as he climbed a fencing partition. A sheriff's deputy

arrived about then and used an electroshock weapon against the dog, stunning it. The dog was secured, allowing emergency medical personnel to attend to Gilbert. She was taken to the hospital, where she was detained more than four months for treatment, including surgery, of her wounds. Vorel hurt his ankle and shoulder, and he recovered. 84093-9535



WILLIAM R. WALKER

San Jose, California

William R. Walker died after attempting to save Nalini Kommineni from drowning, Carmel, California, July 3, 2010. Kommineni, 31, and other members of her party were walking along the beach of a state park when they were knocked down by the surf and pulled into the water of Carmel Bay of the Pacific Ocean. In another party at the beach, Walker, 48, operations manager, immediately responded to the water, as did others who were nearby, to aid the victims. They pulled all of the victims onto the beach except for Kommineni, who was floating face down at a point about 300 feet from shore. Despite a rough surf with waves of at least eight feet in height, Walker entered the water and swam out to her. He began to tow her toward shore but was next seen separated from her. Walker struggled toward the beach and was pulled the remaining distance to safety by a responding sheriff's deputy. He soon lost consciousness, and efforts to revive him at the scene and at the hospital were unsuccessful, as he had drowned. Responding lifeguards, meanwhile, removed Kommineni from the water. She too was taken to the hospital, where she died two days later. 83305-9546



DANIEL R. WELP

East Dubuque, Illinois

Daniel R. Welp saved Merlin J. Hoftender from drowning, East Dubuque, Illinois, July 28, 2011. Hoftender, 53, was stranded at his pickup truck after it was washed from a flooded highway into a ditch during heavy rains at night. Welp, 55, custodian, was driving on the same highway when the floodwater's current took his truck past Hoftender's. Hoftender, who could not swim, shouted to him for help. When Welp's truck stopped on the highway, he exited and saw that another motorist was stranded by the floodwater on the highway. Welp went to that motorist and aided him to safety at the edge of the flooded area. He then re-entered the floodwaters and proceeded several hundred feet, to a point beyond Hoftender's truck. Welp stepped from the highway into the 10-foot-deep water of the flooded ditch and, moving with the current, swam to Hoftender's truck. He aided Hoftender up the opposite bank of the ditch to the bed of a railroad track that extended alongside it. Firefighters had been dispatched along the track and met up with the men. All reached safety. 84292-9548



TIMOTHY ELBRIDGE WEST

Riverside, California

Timothy Elbridge West helped to rescue Steven E. Bull from burning, El Segundo, California, March 13, 2011. Bull, 52, was at the controls of a commercial helicopter being used to lift heavy equipment from the roof of a two-story industrial building. During one such lift, the craft lost partial engine power, sending it crashing to the pavement beside the building, where it lay on its side. The helicopter caught fire as Bull, injured and unconscious, remained in the cockpit, strapped to his seat and otherwise trapped in the wreckage, by an arm. A coworker, West, 41, pilot, who was working the job from the building's roof, immediately responded to the scene with another man. Joining another of Bull's coworkers at the wreckage, who had gained

access to the cockpit and released Bull's safety belt and shoulder harness, West extended his upper body into the cockpit, despite flames entering it from behind Bull. He pulled hard on Bull's arm to free it from the wreckage and then with the two other rescuers removed him from the cockpit and dragged him several feet away. Flames grew quickly to consume the cockpit, cabin, and much of the fuselage, including the craft's two fuel tanks. Bull was hospitalized three days for treatment of his injuries, which included minor burns, and he recovered. 84063-9527



SUMMER N. WHITE

Edmond, Oklahoma

Summer N. White attempted to save Rebecka J. Hall from being struck by a vehicle, Mulvane, Kansas, June 12, 2011. After a vehicular accident on an interstate highway at night, Hall, 32, lay injured and incapacitated on the roadway surface beside her car. White, 18, groom, was a passenger in a pickup truck that approached the scene and stopped. White left the pickup and went to Hall, who was screaming. She grasped Hall by the arms and started to move her from the lanes of travel when an oncoming truck struck Hall's car. The car in turn spun around, striking Hall and White and knocking them to a point against the median barrier wall. Both women were taken to the hospital, where Hall was pronounced dead. White was detained three days for treatment, including surgery, of fractures to her collarbone, shoulder, and back and other injuries. 84269-9558



WILLIAM WILKINSON

Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

William Wilkinson died attempting to save Jennifer Torres from drowning, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, May 25, 2011. Torres, 18, fell into the Delaware River from a pier along the bank and was quickly carried away by a strong tidal current. A friend who was present, William, 17, high school student,

jumped into the river from the pier after her. He reached Torres, but they became separated and Torres was swept farther away. A man arriving at the pier to fish was alerted to the situation. He jumped into the water, swam to Torres, and took her to the bank, aided by another man. William, meanwhile, struggled to stay afloat as others attempted to rescue him, and he then submerged. His body was recovered from the river the following day. He had drowned. 84075-9554



JOHN P. WILLIAMS
La Crosse, Wisconsin

John P. Williams helped to save Joel L. Merchlewitz from drowning, La Crosse, Wisconsin, June 25, 2011. At night, Merchlewitz, 39, entered the Mississippi River and was carried downstream by a strong current. Williams, 41, deputy sheriff, overheard a police dispatch on the situation and responded to the river bank. Seeing Merchlewitz disappear into the darkness, Williams removed his shoes and items of gear, donned a life vest, and dived into the water, which was deep along the bank. He swam in the direction of Merchlewitz, the current taking him about 400 feet downstream, to where he was able to hold briefly to a bridge pier. He saw Merchlewitz nearby, struggling to stay afloat, and intercepted him. As Williams held to Merchlewitz, the current carried them farther downstream, and they submerged repeatedly. Boaters aboard a private craft caught up to the men and secured them with a line. A fire department boat arrived shortly and took them aboard and to safety. Merchlewitz was not injured. Williams was nearly exhausted, but he recovered that night. 84160-9541



CHARLES V. WORDEN

North Garden, Virginia

Charles V. Worden saved Adrian G. Rowe from drowning, Waynesboro, Virginia, April 16, 2011. Adrian, 9, and two others were attempting to walk across a low water crossing that was inundated to a depth of about 2.5 feet by surging floodwaters of a creek. The rushing water forced them against a rail that extended along the edge of the crossing. A passing motorist, Worden, 44, maintenance engineer, saw them and stopped at the scene. Shouting for them to return, Worden waded through the flooded area and onto the near end of the crossing. Reaching Adrian, he grasped the boy and put him under an arm as he then tried to secure the others. They were washed from his grasp and carried downstream. Worden waded from the floodwater with Adrian to safety and then ran after the others, but they submerged and drowned, their bodies recovered later. 83992-9513



NATHAN YASSEN

Brockton, Massachusetts

Nathan Yassen saved Nina L. Sullivan from burning, Brockton, Massachusetts, January 28, 2011. Sullivan, 97, was alone in her one-story frame house after fire broke out in a back room at night and filled the structure with dense smoke. Her neighbor, Yassen, 19, student, was outside his house and discovered the fire. He responded to the rear of the structure, but flame conditions there prevented his entering. Going to the front of the house, he kicked open the front door and entered, despite intense heat inside and visibility that was restricted by the smoke. Crouching, Yassen made his way through the living room and a hall toward Sullivan's bedroom, en route passing the kitchen, which was aflame. He found Sullivan outside her bedroom doorway. Placing an arm around her, Yassen guided her past the burning kitchen and through the living room, and they exited the house to safety. Flames grew to engulf and destroy the house. Both Sullivan and Yassen were

taken to the hospital for treatment of smoke inhalation, Sullivan requiring admission. They recovered. 83836-9514



GARY YURKOVIC, JR.

Carteret, New Jersey

Gary Yurkovic, Jr., helped to save a woman from falling, New Brunswick, New Jersey, December 14, 2010. At night, a 53-year-old woman was found suspended from a railroad trestle about 25 feet above a paved street in what was reported to be a suicide attempt. Police, including Yurkovic, 27, responded. From the deck of the trestle, officers reached through a hole in the chain-link fence along the edge of the trestle and grasped the woman. In their struggle to keep her from falling, they experienced difficulty maintaining their holds in the 20-degree air temperature. Fearing that the officers were about to lose their grip of the woman, Yurkovic climbed over the fence and lowered himself to a two-inch-wide ledge along its base. Holding to the fence with one hand, Yurkovic reached down and grasped a sleeve of the woman's jacket with the other. She was uncooperative as Yurkovic held her against the trestle for several minutes. During that time, another of the officers climbed to the top of the fence, reached over, and secured Yurkovic by his clothing. Firefighters responding in a bucket truck lowered the woman and Yurkovic to the ground. Both were taken to the hospital, where Yurkovic was treated for hypothermia. He recovered. 84057-9561



STEVEN P. ZERNHELT

Northampton, Pennsylvania

Steven P. Zernhelt died attempting to rescue Denise M. Merhi and others from assault, Northampton, Pennsylvania, June 26, 2010. Merhi, 39, was inside her home after a man arrived and entered there. He stabbed and killed Merhi's father, grandfather, and then Merhi herself. Zernhelt, 53, technical service advisor, was at his home in the adjacent unit of the house. Hearing

Merhi scream, he went to her front door but returned to his unit when no one responded, and he checked the back of the property. A female friend of Merhi then arrived at the residence and, entering, found Mehri, bloodied, on the kitchen floor. She fled the home screaming, which alerted Zernhelt. They met on the front porch, where the friend told Zernhelt to call police. Instead, Zernhelt entered the residence and was heard struggling with the assailant. The assailant stabbed Zernhelt, inflicting fatal wounds. He then fled the scene but was arrested shortly by police. 83289-9503



ABIGAIL R. ZUEHLKE

Earlysville, Virginia

Abigail R. Zuehlke helped to save Brandon and Daniel Santiago from drowning, Hunting Island, South Carolina, July 8, 2011. Swimming in the Atlantic Ocean off a state park beach, Brandon, 18, and his brother, Daniel, 20, were caught in a rip current that prevented their returning to shore. In another party, Zuehlke, 30, homemaker, had just arrived at the beach and was alerted to the swimmers' plight by those on shore. She entered the water and waded and swam to Brandon, who was about 300 feet out. Finding him nearly exhausted, Zuehlke hooked him by the arm and started back toward shore, having to swim against the current while towing him. When she was about halfway back, she met up with a man who had entered the surf and turned Brandon over to him. As the man took Brandon to safety, Zuehlke turned and swam out to Daniel, guided by those on the beach. Reaching him at a point also about 300 feet from shore, Zuehlke grasped him and started back toward the beach. A responding park ranger who had entered the surf took Daniel from her, and all three returned to the beach. Brandon and Daniel were treated at the scene, with Brandon then requiring overnight hospitalization. He recovered. 84192-9507

2010-2011-2012 AWARD STATISTICS

MEDALS

Eighty-five Carnegie Medals were awarded in 2010, with 83 awarded in 2011 and 81 awarded in 2012, bringing the total to 9,576 since the Hero Fund was established in 1904. To date, the Commission has considered 85,420 rescue acts.

Especially do we remember those who gave their lives saving or attempting to save others. Thirty-nine such sacrifices were honored in 2010, 2011, and 2012, bringing the total to date to 1,979:

Dionysios Agelatos
 Martin C. Allarding
 Kyle D. Austin
 Jimmy Avant
 Ricky D. Clinton
 Larry G. Darrohn, Jr.
 Carmen F. DeGregorio, Jr.
 Daniel L. Diaz
 Cara A. Ellis
 Bryan Phillip Gross
 Eula Lee Harward
 Allen Lee Heck
 José Higareda
 James Hobbs
 William B. Jackson, Jr.
 Richard A. Johnston
 Jonathan Paul Jones
 Adrian Alexander Jones
 Mark W. Keene
 Narong Khaokham

Douglas D. Killingbeck
 Jeremy Dylan McCarroll
 Tina Maryann Moores
 John F. Morris, Jr.
 Christine Rose Nguyen
 Bobby Joe O'Quinn III
 Edward J. Power, Jr.
 Bobby A. Qualls, Jr.
 David M. Reichenberg
 Cynthia L. Riediger
 Nathan N. Smith
 Kenneth J. Stephens, Sr.
 Trevor Jordan Tally
 Garrett T. Townsend, Jr.
 Willard Van Fleet
 Gary DeWayne Vinson, Jr.
 William R. Walker
 William Wilkinson
 Steven P. Zernhelt

MONETARY GRANTS	2010	2011	2012	TO DATE
For continuing support of widows, widowers, and other dependents, and disabled heroes	\$304,717	\$294,735	\$292,525	\$17,062,733
Monetary awards, including educational assistance, and medals	608,584	625,809	629,650	17,614,189
TOTALS	\$913,301	\$920,544	\$922,175	\$34,676,922

MEMBERS OF THE
COMMISSION
(Shown with year of election)

A. H. Burchfield III 1987
Robert J. Cindrich 2012
Elizabeth H. Genter¹ 2000
Robert M. Hernandez 2012
Thomas J. Hilliard, Jr. 1979
David McL. Hillman 1996
Linda T. Hills 2007
Peter J. Lambrou 2009
Mark Laskow 1992
Nathalie Lemieux 2012
Christopher R. McCrady 1999
Priscilla J. McCrady 1989
Ann M. McGuinn 1992
Nancy L. Rackoff 2002
Frank Brooks Robinson 1966
Dan D. Sandman 2002
Kenneth G. Sawyer² 2008
Arthur M. Scully, Jr.³ 1964
Arthur M. Scully III 2011
William P. Snyder III⁴ 1951
Michael A. Thompson 2012
Sybil P. Veeder 1992
James M. Walton⁵ 1968
Joseph C. Walton 2011
Susanne C. Wean 2011
Thomas L. Wentling, Jr. 1991
Alfred W. Wishart, Jr.⁶ 1976
Carol A. Word⁷ 2003

HONORARY
MEMBERS

E. Bayley Buchanan⁸ 1975
Robert W. Off⁹ 1973
J. Evans Rose, Jr.¹⁰ 1979
William P. Snyder III 1951
James M. Walton 1968

OFFICERS

Mark Laskow, *President*
Priscilla J. McCrady,
Vice President
Walter F. Rutkowski, *Secretary*
and Executive Director
Dan D. Sandman, *Treasurer*

COMMITTEES¹¹

AUDIT

Thomas L. Wentling, Jr., *Chair*
Thomas J. Hilliard, Jr.
Nancy L. Rackoff
Joseph C. Walton

FINANCE

Thomas L. Wentling, Jr., *Chair*
David McL. Hillman
Frank Brooks Robinson
Dan D. Sandman

MEMBERSHIP

A. H. Burchfield III
Thomas J. Hilliard, Jr.
Dan D. Sandman
Michael A. Thompson
Sybil P. Veeder

EXECUTIVE

Sybil P. Veeder, *Chair*
Thomas L. Wentling, Jr.,
Vice Chair
A.H. Burchfield
Robert J. Cindrich
Robert M. Hernandez
Thomas J. Hilliard, Jr.
David McL. Hillman
Linda T. Hills
Peter J. Lambrou
Nathalie Lemieux
Christopher R. McCrady
Priscilla J. McCrady
Ann M. McGuinn
Nancy L. Rackoff
Frank Brooks Robinson
Dan D. Sandman
Arthur M. Scully III
Michael A. Thompson
Joseph C. Walton
Susanne C. Wean

¹Resigned February 22, 2012
²Resigned December 16, 2010
³Died October 28, 2010
⁴Resigned December 7, 2011
⁵Resigned February 22, 2012
⁶Resigned June 20, 2012
⁷Resigned September 13, 2012
⁸Died April 23, 1911
⁹Died September 3, 2010
¹⁰Died July 20, 2012
¹¹The President is ex officio
a member of each committee,
except Audit

**Please address
inquiries to:**

Carnegie Hero Fund
Commission
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